

Hafa Adai!

Overstaying tourist who worked illegally gets time served. **PAGE 2**
'Personal medication' policy may have caused rumor. **PAGE 6**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 142

www.saipantribune.com

THURSDAY JULY 19, 2018

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

Over 900 owed WGI increases

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The financial austerity measures of the early 2000s affected over 900 active and inactive government employees when their scheduled within grade increase of salary was held during the belt-tightening measures.

» OPM went through over 1,300 files

The Office of Personnel Management, according to House Ways and Means Committee Chair Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), noted in the latest of 23 reports submitted to the committee regarding House vice speaker Janet Maratita's (R-Saipan)

See WGI on Page 4

to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. public information officer Sami Birmingham-Babauta.

It was reported that several people suffered from food poisoning after consuming a marlin that was bought from one of the participants in last weekend's Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

Birmingham-Babauta said the preparation of the food could have caused the person to be sick. "This could be an incident where a fish was stored, prepped, and or cooked poorly that resulted in someone getting ill."

"If there was a food-borne illness, it would be a concern. See CHC on Page 4



MAN'AMKO VISIT
Jeju Christian School students and the island's man'amko pose for a group photo during the latter's visit to the Office on Aging yesterday.
FAHIM UDDIN
See story on Page 2

Judge strikes groups' brief that discuss 2013 CJMT Siting Study

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has granted the U.S. Department of the Navy's and U.S. Department of De-

fense's motion to strike the portion of four environmental groups' brief that discuss the 2013 CNMI Joint Military Training Requirements and Siting Study.

Manglona said having considered the environmental groups' new ar-

gument about why the Siting Study should be considered as extra-record evidence, and the authority provided by all parties, she finds no sufficient cause or manifest error to justify reconsidering her prior ruling.

The groups—Tinian Women As-

sociation, Guardians of Gani, Pagan Watch, and the Center for Biological Diversity—are suing the Navy and Defense and their secretaries for alleged violation of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and

See JUDGE on Page 4

Though he is supportive of developing the northern part of Saipan, Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) said careful planning should be done in order not to ruin the unspoiled beauty of tourist spots in the Marpi area.

Guerrero, the House Commerce and Tourism Committee chair, told *Saipan Tribune* that developing northern Saipan would surely bring improvement on the lives of the people in the villages in the area.

"It will improve the northern side. See MARPI on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL

Known as Saipan's electronic gaming and entertainment paradise, Club C turns four years old this month.

PAGE 7

NATION

President Donald Trump on Tuesday backed away from his public undermining of American intelligence agencies.

PAGE 18

LIFE & STYLE

Tour buses will no longer be swinging by a San Francisco house made famous in the popular 1990s sitcom "Full House."

PAGE 21



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Overstaying tourist who worked illegally gets time served

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An overstaying tourist, who was allegedly recruited from China on promises of work at a casino construction site and illegally worked as a construction worker and driver for tourists, entered a guilty plea in federal court and was

slapped with a sentence of five days of time served Tuesday late afternoon.

Kedong Huang, 32, pleaded guilty to information charging him with one count of improper entry by an alien.

The offense is a misdemeanor that carries a maximum penalty of not more than six months of imprisonment

and a fine of up to \$3,000. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said upon release from imprisonment, Huang shall submit to one year of supervised release and comply with conditions.

Manglona said the mandatory conditions are imposed immediately following

Huang's release.

As a further condition of supervised release, Huang was ordered to immediately report to an immigration official for deportation proceedings.

The judge said if deportation does not occur or Huang does voluntarily depart the CNMI by July 22 and he is released pending further immigration proceedings, he must immediately report to the U.S. Probation Office by July 23 to begin his term of supervised release.

Huang was ordered to pay a \$500 fine and \$10 in special assessment fee immediately after sentencing.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, recommended a sentence of time served.

Benjamin Petersburg, the

court-appointed counsel for Huang, concurred with Benedetto's recommendation.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on March 6, 2017, Huang entered the U.S. at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

To obtain entry, Huang misrepresented to immigration inspectors with U.S. Customs and Border Protection that his purpose for entering the U.S. was for "tourism," when in fact, was solely to find work.

During his immigration inspection interview, Huang concealed the material fact that his intention was to find work and reside in the U.S. beyond the time permitted by his conditional parole status.

Federal agents arrested the defendant last Thursday at the airport after Ports Police

officers referred him after encountering him during a traffic violation outside the airport.

CBP officers confirmed from the record that Huang overstayed his CNMI-only conditional parole validity date by more than 400 days.

During an interview with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) investigators, Huang allegedly stated that while he was in China he met a man from Saipan through the "WeChat" messaging application on the internet.

The Saipan man told him to work at a casino construction site on Saipan and earn \$2,000 per month, plus high overtime pay. He, however, upon arriving on Saipan did not work at the casino construction site but at different construction place.

Huang said he later became a driver for tourists.

Korean students entertain man 'amkos during visit

By FAHIM UDDIN
fahimuddin489@gmail.com
REPORTER

Korean students from Jeju Christian School visited the Office of Aging yesterday to share their culture by performing musical dances and other acts to the islands' man 'amko.

Jeju Christian School coordinator Kate Park said they visited the Office on Aging and performed in front of the man 'amko because it's part of their curriculum as a Christian alternative school.

"We want to give our students a chance to know God and to make him known. This is our motto: To know God and make him known," she said.

Rengesual Yobech, the coordinator of the visit, said the students engaging the elderly of Saipan is part of their message of hope.

"We share the message of hope and entertain our man 'amkos and give them something to enjoy as well as [sharing] the message of hope. So, that is the really big purpose here," he said.

Park said the group of students between 13 and 15 years old arrived on Saipan last Monday.

Their presentation to the man 'amko included a variety of genres like drama and comedy and dances like the fan dance, hansam dance, and samulnori.

Aging director Walter Manglona thanked the students of Jeju Christian School for the thoughtful visit and their superb performances.

"We always welcome the people from the community or people from abroad who like to come here and entertain our seniors. We routinely get visits from various groups ranging from schools, to private sector, to non-profit, even some churches all over the island. Just performers in general that like to come here and share some of their crafts, art, and culture to the man 'amkos. I can tell by the reactions of our clients that they are appreciative and they enjoyed the program," he said.

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS

3 JULY Super Draw

Player Promotion

WITH \$500 MIDNIGHT CASH DRAWS EVERY WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY NIGHT EACH WEEK WITH OVER \$18,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES TO BE WON BY LUCKY CLUB 88 PLAYERS, AND SPECIAL \$2,500 3RD BIRTHDAY MIDNIGHT MEGA DRAW ON TUESDAY, 17TH OF JULY WITH BIRTHDAY CAKE FOR ALL PLAYERS!

COME PLAY TODAY FOR A CHANCE TO BE A BIG WINNER!

OPEN: SUNDAY TO THURSDAY 12:00 PM TO 4:00AM | FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 24 HOURS
OCEAN VIEW HOTEL GARAPAN SAIPAN

Ex-convict gets 3 years in jail for possession of 'ice'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man who was arrested last December for trafficking methamphetamine or "ice," but pleaded guilty to illegal possession of controlled substance, was slapped with a three-year prison term.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho sentenced Raymond DLG King, 53, to five years imprisonment all suspended except three years.

Camacho said King shall be eligible for parole after serving the first one year in prison that he shall spend day to day.

After completing the prison term, the defendant will be placed on supervised probation for two years.

Last March 27, King entered a guilty plea. He waived to have a pre-sentence investigation report.

King was not eligible to participate in the drug court program due to a prior criminal and drug conviction.

Camacho noted at the previous change of plea hearing that King has a prior conviction for theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received.

King was among six persons arrested for trafficking and illegal possession of methamphetamine in separate operations against "ice" by the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force and Drug Enforcement Administration early December of 2017.

Last Dec. 12, the Office of the Attorney General filed an

information charging King with two counts of trafficking of controlled substance and two counts of illegal possession of controlled substance. The charges carry a total maximum sentence of 60 years imprisonment.

Last March 8, OAG filed an amended information charging King with only one count of illegal possession of controlled substance. The offense carries a maximum sentence of five years prison term.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, King unlawfully possessed approximately 0.6 gross grams of crystal methamphetamine on Nov. 27, 2017 on Saipan.

Under the plea deal, the court must consider a range of zero (credit for time served) to three years imprisonment.

Hinds said based on King's criminal actions and the type of crime committed

the CNMI, he asked that the court sentence him to three years in jail and two years probation, and a \$2,000 fine.

Hinds noted that King has a prior conviction for meth possession in which he was sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Hinds said King has been arrested for domestic violence incidents, involving two separate women.

One of those women, the prosecutor said, then applied for and received a temporary restraining order against King.

Hinds said meth addition "could" be considered a victimless crime, but not to family members affected by the

addict's action.

Furthermore, he said, this defendant has helped to create addicts and hence, victims in the Commonwealth.

Hinds said King is correct that the amount of meth in this case is small.

Nevertheless, Hinds said, King was in possession to sell, which made the situation different than a simple possession.

Assistant public defender Nancy Dominski, counsel for King, recommended a conditional discharge sentence, or in the alternative all time suspended except for time served.

King has been in jail since his arrest on Dec. 4, 2017.

Dominski requested the court to place King on probation for five years.

Dominski said as a condition of probation, King should attend drug/alcohol counseling as specified by probation.

Dominski said King has accepted responsibility and expressed remorse.

She said King admits his addiction, and requests treatment for the same.

Dominski said King has an ex-wife and an 8-year-old son that needs his support.

She said King has one prior non-violent conviction that is over 30 years old.

A Drug Enforcement Task Force agent said that their "cooperating source" was able to purchase from King \$180 worth of "ice" and \$180 more worth of "ice" during "buy-walk" operations in Chalan Kanoa last Nov. 27 and 28.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Former Department of Public Works director for administration Juan Cepeda Deleon Guerrero, standing at extreme right, poses with family members and supporters outside the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe, where he filed his candidacy yesterday as an independent for House of Representatives under precinct 5.

der precinct 5.

Precinct 5 covers the Kagman area.

Deleon Guerrero said if elected he wants to work for the improvement of a lot of roads in Kagman.

"I like to see [road projects] to move forward," said Deleon Guerrero, who was accom-

panied by his supporters and family members at CEC.

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... \$29.99
 for a 3rd Party Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
\$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe
Some conditions may apply

F H B . C O M

Luta Cares founder files candidacy for Rota mayor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Julie Ogo Manglona, the founder of the charitable group "Luta Cares," filed yesterday her candidacy before the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe as an independent for the Rota mayoral seat.

Accompanied by supporters and family members, Manglona submitted her petition for nomination and candidacy at 2:15pm.

Armed with over 300 signatures in her nomination, Manglona was upbeat about the prospect of serving in a new capacity outside of her philanthropic works.

Manglona in an interview said friends and family have approached her to serve as an "agent for change" due to the daily struggles being faced as a direct result of Rota's small population and geographic difficulties.

She said her biggest goal is

to restore trust and confidence in the office and work with Rota's best and brightest to bring about opportunities for the people of the island.

"I don't claim to know it all, but will work with qualified people to upgrade facilities, streamline

services, foster relationships with incoming investors, and look at finding solutions at keeping current businesses on island employing our local workforce," she said.

Manglona is currently working as a sales consultant with Joeten Motors Co.

Lee Atalig, who is Manglona's committee-to-elect chairman, said the people of Rota are confident in her abilities, "she means what she says and says what she means."

"She is known for her big

heart and that's what's needed in our leaders in this day and age," Atalig said.

It's a crowded mayoral race on Rota at the Nov. 6 general election. Manglona, three other independents, and incumbent Republican Mayor Efrain M. Atalig will

be vying for the mayoral seat. Atalig and Rota Sen. Steve K. Mesngon (independent) had already filed their candidacies for mayor. The two other independents—Crispin M. Ayuyu and Richard E. Taisacan—have yet to file their candidacies.

Meanwhile, former Department of Public Works director for administration Juan Cepeda Deleon Guerrero filed his candidacy yesterday afternoon as an independent for the House of Representatives un-



Accompanied by family members and supporters, Luta Cares founder Julie Ogo Manglona files her candidacy as an independent for Rota mayor at the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

A personal line of credit for all your dreams.

BE FINANCIALLY FLEXIBLE



PERSONAL FIRSTLINE LOCK

3.99% APR*
Fixed for 1 Year

9.63% APR*

Current fully indexed rate as of 6/14/18


First Hawaiian Bank.

Apply at fhb.com.

Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559

Member FDIC 

* The introductory 3.99% APR is fixed for one year from account opening. After the introductory period, the APR may vary and will be adjusted monthly to 4.50 percentage points over an index, which is the Wall Street Journal Prime Rate, except that the APR will never be higher than 24.00% for Hawaii (18.00% for Guam). The current variable APR is **9.63%** as of **6/14/18**. The APR will be 0.25 or 0.35 percentage point lower if you have a personal Priority Banking Checking Account Level 2 or 3, respectively. There is a one-time documentation preparation fee of \$50.00 and an annual fee of \$35.00. Annual fee of \$35.00 will be waived as long as you have a personal Priority Banking Checking Account Level 3 or Private Banking at the time the fee is assessed. Offer subject to credit approval and good for new approved Personal FirstLine Lock applications received from 5/1/18 to 6/30/18 and cannot be combined with other promotions or special rates. This offer does not apply to Business or Real Estate Loans. Refinances of existing First Hawaiian Bank personal loans or lines-of-credit do not qualify for the offer. The promotional 0.95%, 1.95%, and 2.75% Annual Percentage Rates (APR) for the variable rate portion of your credit line are fixed for 12, 24 and 36 months, respectively, from account opening. After the applicable pro

Manpower needs plague Probation office, Parole board

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Both the Office of Adult Probation and the Board of Parole in yesterday's annual presentation to the Legislature highlighted the large parity between probation officers and parole officers to cases assigned to them.

In a presentation, both chief probation officer Ursula Aldan and chief parole officer Nick Reyes highlighted the high parity between cases handled to the number of officers in each respective division.

According to statistics offered by Aldan, the Probation office handles 1,400 active cases on probation; 1,100 cases pending review;

» Probation: 2606 total cases, only 10 officers

» Parole: 23 active cases, only three officers

and a total of 2,606 cases divided between 10 probation officers.

For the Parole, Reyes noted that there are currently 27 cases of parolees in the CNMI with only three parole officers handling them. Reyes also noted that this coming October, he expects the number increase to about 35 cases.

Both Aldan and Reyes noted the obvious during their presentation: The need

for additional manpower. Aldan noted in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* that local statute does not call for a specific ratio to be held for the probation office, unlike the U.S. mainland.

"...In some states, it specifies [a ratio] per officer. We don't have that here," she said.

"We've always asked for more [full-time employees]," she said, adding that she is aware that the House in the fiscal year 2019 budget bill gave the Probation office eight additional FTE's for the fiscal year.

The Senate has yet to act on the fiscal year 2019 budget bill.

Reyes in a separate interview with *Saipan Tribune*

noted that parolees have committed crimes that vary. Reyes noted that there are drug-related crimes, violent crimes, child molestation, and more.

"We have all kinds of charges that are out on the streets. We are still lacking staff, but we try to put our staff out there, day or night. If an individual falls on the intensive watch, then I try to put my staff on intensive watch on those individuals," Reyes said.

In a statement, House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) noted that the annual presentation was both enlightening and appreciated.

"We continue to appreciate and acknowledge their

work in making sure that restoring [public] trust and creating hope in the community is foremost. We continue to dialogue with

them to find ways on how to assist them [through funding] and in the work they do," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

people got sick," she added.

The Bureau of Environmental Health, one of the offices under CHCC's Division of Public Health Services, usually releases advisories to inform the public of possible health risks on hazardous and unsanitary conditions.

They had closed and issued fines to establishments that have been found in violation of local and federal health and safety laws.

BEH has also issued a warning that mobile food vendors need to have the proper documentation to operate a said business and should follow proper food handling guidelines to ensure the quality of their products and the safety of their customers.

The CNMI, so far, has also not been affected by several recalls made by some food companies on their products in the mainland.

MVA, NMDOA clean up Laulau Beach

Staff from the Marianas Visitors Authority and members of the Northern Marianas Dive Operators Association cleaned up Laulau Beach on June 29, 2018, collecting over 300 pounds of trash and recyclable material.

"Laulau is one of our most popular dive sites and is the regular focus of a cleanup effort by the MVA and our partners at NMDOA," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "We ask all beachgoers to help us maintain the excellent reputation of The Marianas for snorkeling and diving by ensuring they remove their trash from the beach. We collected an inordinate number of plastic

bottles, aluminum cans, plastic straws and other garbage left behind by visitors and residents who frequent Laulau. This is unacceptable. We need stricter anti-litter law enforcement at this site. We cut the grass and trimmed trees around the parking area to make it more accessible for vehicles. Kudos to the MVA and NMDOA teams

for their hard work."

NMDOA and the MVA jointly adopted the popular dive spot several years ago and conduct quarterly cleanups at the site. (PR)

Mayor's office looking for host families

The Saipan Mayor's Office is looking for host families to take care of visiting students from Japan.

The Sanpoen group is set to visit Saipan from July 26 to Aug. 1, 2018 and will take part in the annual lantern ceremony in memory of the

Japanese who perished during World War II.

The second group, Kokusai Seishonen Kenshu Kyokai, will be on Saipan from Aug. 3 to Aug. 9, 2018.

For the KSKK, the mayor's office is politely asking for a host

family to assist them with transportation (pick up and drop off) and meals (breakfast and dinner during the weekdays). They will stay with their host family for the whole duration of their stay.

For those who are interested in hosting the Japanese students, visit the Saipan Mayor's Office or call 234-6208. (Fahim Uddin)

family to assist them with transportation (pick up and drop off) and meals (breakfast and dinner during the weekdays). They will stay with their host family for the whole duration of their stay.

The committee adopted H.B. 20-120 unanimously without amendments. The bill now heads to the House floor for review in a future session.

Maratita noted during committee discussions on the bill that OPM continues to review several hundreds of files for both active and inactive government employees affected by the financial austerity measures.

The committee adopted H.B. 20-120 unanimously without amendments. The bill now heads to the House floor for review in a future session.

The Last Command Post, Banzai and Suicide cliffs, Bird Island Lookout, Grotto dive site, and Kalabera Cave are some of the tourist destinations up north aside from the steep hills that local bikers love to challenge.

Guerrero said that infrastructure is the next thing that needs to be considered. "As much as we want development up there, infrastructure must be considered. If you have other or additional major development power and sewer will be overwhelmed dramatically."

"[The Commonwealth

Utilities Corp.] would not be capable to sustain additional output of power and waste. We don't know the exact size that's in place a number of years ago, so those need to be upgraded," added the precinct 1 lawmaker.

American Sinopan is building its Saipan Garden Resort in Tanapag, which they dubbed as the "gateway to the north," while New Century Hotel LLC is going to convert the former Sebastian Building to a 48-room hotel and Bridge Capital LLC is redeveloping the old Plumeria Resort.

E-Land, which owns and operates Kensington aside from Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort and Pacific Islands Club Saipan, unveiled a bold plan of renovating the abandoned La Fiesta Mall nearly two years ago.

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is also looking to take over Mariana Resort's facilities and hopes to build a water-theme park up north.

WGI

From Page 1

House Bill 20-120 that about 907 government employees did not receive their within grade increase in salaries, or WGI, when the government imposed a government-wide financial austerity measure.

Maratita's H.B. 20-120 seeks to retroactively address the salaries owed to those af-

fected by the withholding of the WGI salary increases.

Demapan said yesterday in the House Ways and Means Committee meeting at the House chamber on Capitol Hill that according to OPM, the amounts owed to the 907 total at about \$4.2 million.

"OPM is still working on the figures and as of their 23rd report, it is at \$4 million. [This amount] covers for the 907

employees that were deemed eligible [by OPM]," said Demapan in an interview.

He said, citing OPM, that over 200 employees were not deemed eligible to receive payment if the bill is enacted.

"We still expect that number to go up," continued Demapan, referring to the 907 eligible active or inactive employees. "Honestly, at this point, I do not know what the final figure is."

JUDGE

From Page 1

Administrative Procedure Act (APA) over their decision to relocate 5,000 U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to conduct live-training on Tinian and Pagan.

The Navy and Defense, through counsel U.S. Department of Justice, moved to strike the groups' citation to extra-record evidence.

DOJ trial attorney Joshua P. Wilson said in violation of Manglona's order excluding the Siting Study from the administrative record in this case, the groups cited and relied on that document, and attached the Siting Study to its opposition to the U.S. government's motion for summary judgment.

In their opposition brief to the U.S. government's motion for summary judgment, the groups have referred to the Siting Study to refute Navy's and Defense's claim that the CNMT project "is designed to serve the training needs of 'all U.S. and allied forces in the Pacific,' regardless of whether they are stationed in the Marinas."

In granting defendants' motion to strike, Manglona said in their motion for summary judgment, the groups have already argued, based on the administrative record, that no other forces would make more than "occasional use of some of the training facilities" proposed for the Mariana Islands, and therefore the CJMT is in-

herently connected with the Guam relocation decisions.

The judge said what plaintiffs (groups) want is for more specific information about which units in the Mariana Islands were affected in order to argue that there is "no need for the CJMT program to pursue the...training projects on Tinian or Pagan" without the Marines who would be relocated from Okinawa and therefore the actions are connected.

Manglona said even if the administrative record does not have a specific document that describes the specific units using the training facilities in the Mariana Islands, the "general subject matter" of who would be using the training facilities is addressed in the record, as demonstrated by plaintiffs' own motion for summary judgment.

Manglona said given the narrow circumstances in which a court may consider extra-record evidence, she concludes there is no manifest error or sufficient cause to reconsider her decision to exclude the Siting Study from consideration.

The judge agrees that the groups' request is not legally time-barred, but agrees with the Navy and Defense that it was not appropriate for the groups to rely on the Siting Study in their brief in opposition to defendants' motion for summary judgment without first submitting a separate request for reconsideration.

Nonetheless, Manglona said, she considers the groups' request on the merits.

MARPI

From Page 1

and gives them the opportunity to develop itself. But as much as we want development to coexist, we have to plan modestly on how to develop the northern side," said Guerrero.

"We don't want to overwhelm it because, No. 1, we have the tourist sites in the Marpi area. We have to be very conservative and protect that area. We want to keep those tourist areas intact."

"[The Commonwealth

Utilities Corp.] would not be capable to sustain additional output of power and waste. We don't know the exact size that's in place a number of years ago, so those need to be upgraded," added the precinct 1 lawmaker.

American Sinopan is building its Saipan Garden Resort in Tanapag, which they dubbed as the "gateway to the north," while New Century Hotel LLC is going to convert the former Sebastian Building to a 48-room hotel and Bridge Capital LLC is redeveloping the old Plumeria Resort.

E-Land, which owns and operates Kensington aside from Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort and Pacific Islands Club Saipan, unveiled a bold plan of renovating the abandoned La Fiesta Mall nearly two years ago.

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is also looking to take over Mariana Resort's facilities and hopes to build a water-theme park up north.

Family grief discussed at Rotary Club meeting

By FAHIM UDDIN
fahimuddin489@gmail.com
REPORTER

We Remember Them,
CNMI's Jill Derickson talked
about family grief during the
Rotary Club of Saipan meet-
ing last Tuesday at the Hyatt
Regency Saipan.

In recognition of the Bereaved Parents Awareness Month this July, Derickson gave an orientation to explain the effects and the ways the community can support people who have lost their loved ones.

She made an example of family grief by providing her own experience. She said her 29-year-old sister, Debbie, was murdered in Santa Clara, California back in 1979.

After the incident, she received grief support training for a period of time. From her training, she learned that most people have gone through grief somehow.

Derickson said common feelings when facing grief are sadness, anger, guilt, depression, tears, and anxiety.

"[One] may have difficulty in making decisions, inability to concentrate, disinterest [in] job-related details, frustration

and irritability, depression and mood swings, and marital and family problems," she said.

Through experience, she witnessed a research project proving that a loss of productivity and rise in accident rates occurs when suffering from emotional stress.

Derickson goes on to say that as a member of our community, we should show support by providing either sympathy or empathy.

"I say 'make a difference' because you cannot fix it of course. You can't bring the deceased person back... a hug, a touch, a simple 'I'm so sorry' offers real comfort and support."

To commemorate the Bereaved Parents Month, We Remember Them, CNMI will hold the annual "Walk to Remember" on July 26, 5:30pm starting from Minali-chom Attdao Pavilion to the Atkins Kroll intersection. The Saipan community is invited to show support to the grieved families. Participants are advised to wear black for

Development Center small business training program

- Bank of Hawaii Smart Money small business financial education training

Grant awardees are also expected to report to the bank on how the grant has made a difference to their business and the community by Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018.

Oct. 30, 2018.

Application forms are available online at www.boh.com/saipanapp and <http://www.pacificsbdc.com/locations/cwwwnmi-sbdc>, at Bank of Hawaii's Gualo Rai Branch.

or by contacting our Branch Manager (Saipan) Rose Sumor at Rose.Sumor@boh.com or (670) 237-2983. Applications should be submitted to: Branch Manager Rose Sumor

via email at Rose.Sumor@boh.com or regular mail to Bank of Hawaii, Springs Plaza, Chalan Pale Arnold, Saipan MP 96950 or PO Box 500566, Saipan MP 96950. (PR)

Jill Derickson gives her presentation about family grief during the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting last Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.





FROM THE MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

Congratulations
on your
4th
Anniversary!

CLUB C
CASINO & ENTERTAINMENT

'Personal medication' policy may have caused rumor

Medical staff of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. suspects that patients who misunderstood the "personal medication" policy might have caused the rumor that the hospital is running out of its supply of medication.

CHCC has assured the public that it has enough supplies of medication to treat its patients, dismissing rumors that are circulating in the community that they don't have enough supply of medicines to treat its patients.

"We recognize that the inconsistent operating history of the hospital may make these rumors seem reasonable, but put simply, there is no shortage of medication at CHCC," said CHCC public information officer Sami Birmingham-Babauta.

She said that it wasn't clear where and when the rumors started circulating, and who spread it around.

The personal medication policy controls the patient's use of medications they brought home while they were admitted at the Commonwealth Health Center. It's a general rule at CHCC that patients are not allowed to take medications they brought home while they were admitted at the hospital.

However, there are exceptions like when a patient has been accustomed to a specific brand of medication that's not sold at the hospital's pharmacy and another alternative is also not available.

Patients can also bring their

Sumay Memorial Mass to be held on US Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, GUAM—U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Grimes is inviting former residents of Sumay village and their descendants to a memorial Mass on NBG July 20.

The event is coordinated with the Santa Rita Mayor's Office as part of the island's Liberation Day festivities.

The Mass will be held 11am at Sumay Cemetery, followed by a luncheon hosted by the

medication given to them at the hospital in order for them to show it to their healthcare providers during their assessments.

"If a patient is admitted with their home supply of medication on hand and does not formally request to use their personal medication, it is secured by the nursing staff and returned to the patient at discharge," said CHCC in a statement.

CHCC patients admitted in the hospital and those at the outpatient are always informed of their rights before being attended to at the hospital. Those utilizing the outpatient services can get a copy of their registration.

"Patients have the right to make a verbal complaint to a staff member present at the time of the issue or file a grievance with the hospital," added CHCC in their statement released to members of the local media.

"Grievances forms can be obtained from the cashier on the main floor next to the emergency room registration and submitted into the box on the adjoining wall labeled 'patient grievances.'"

CHCC is also encouraging the community to use the "contact us" section on the chcc.gov.mp website for questions, comments, and other concerns they would like to inform their officials.

All the concerns submitted on the website are reviewed by the staff and sent to the person that would address the issue. *(Jon Perez)*

SUMAY MEMORIAL MASS to be held on US Naval Base Guam mayor's office. Former Sumay residents and descendants may contact the Santa Rita Mayor's office at 565-4337/2514 to arrange access for the Mass.

Sumay village was once known as the "Pearl of the Island" before World War II. Evolving from a small fishing village to the agricultural and commercial hub for ships in the mid-1800s, it became an economically rich village by the 1930s. *(PR)*

from the staff and management of

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Club C celebrates 4th year



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The electronic gaming and entertainment paradise, Club C, turns four years old this month.

Known as an electronic gaming and entertainment paradise of Saipan, Club C turns four years old this month and Club C members are encouraged to join them to celebrate this milestone by bringing in exciting games and many prizes to give away.

According to general manager Pooi Hoong Chow, Club C's success has been made possible by its loyal customers.

"Our customers make us No. 1 that is why we continue to be Saipan's one-stop entertainment. We value our members and make them avail of membership bonuses and rewards and most of all our excellent service," he said.

"We have gaming machines, raffles, live band, good food, and drinks. It is entertainment like no other and I can say we are the most professional and organized entertainment club on Saipan," he added.

Club C food and beverage manager Anita Go said that business has been doing good despite the growing competition on island. "We are very happy that we have reached four years in the business and we promise that we will continue providing games and entertainment to our members. We owe our success to our regular customers and that is why they can only expect the best from us."

"We treat customers like family and we provide an atmosphere for people to have a good time at Club C because it is not only for casino goers. We welcome members and non-members to enjoy live entertainment, drinks at the bar, and deli-



cious food from our kitchen. We also have a VIP room which can be reserved for 'karaoke night' that can accommodate 25-30 people," she added.

To help Club C celebrate its 4th year, the Deal Challenger Promo is back on July 20 where participants will have the chance to win up to \$2,000. "All members are invited to join and as for people who want to become members, membership is free and as new members they are given a \$10 voucher. Free appetizer buffet awaits all players," Go said.

Aside from the anniversary promo Deal Challenger, Club C's regular raffle is ongoing at different times: 9pm, 10pm, 11pm, and 12am, according to Go.

Chow said that the Deal Challenger is much awaited by their customers. "We have this promo quarterly and for special events like our anniversary."

Aside from games, members and walk-ins can enjoy Club C's beer promos.

"We have a 'bucket of beer' promo. One bucket has five assorted beers in bottles or six assorted beers in cans for only \$20. If a customer orders a bucket, they get one appetizer for free. Our Carlsberg Tower is also available for only \$15," Go said.

Chow said that the public can expect more from Club C in the years to come. "We are here for the long term. We are part of the community and they can rely on us to give them good entertainment and value for their money."

"Club C is always moving to greater heights, expanding ourselves, and we are here for our customers," he added. (Bea Cabrera)



Club C members and walk-ins are encouraged to join them in celebrating its 4th anniversary by bringing in exciting games and many prizes to give away.

**YOUR CASINO & ENTERTAINMENT PARADISE
IN SAIPAN**

DEAL CHALLENGER

WIN UP TO \$2,000!

ON JULY 20!

COME CELEBRATE WITH US...

EXCITING GAMES & PRIZES AWAITS YOU

GREAT FOOD - GREAT ENTERTAINMENT - GREAT PRIZES - LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FREE APPETIZERS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

BUSINESS HOURS: SUNDAY: OPEN-5:00PM - 4:00AM • MONDAY-SATURDAY: OPEN-12:00PM - 4:00AM

234-0088 | www.clubcsaipan.com

Must be 18 to enter and 21 to consume alcohol. Designated Smoking Game Area.
Located at the Lobby of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe

www.facebook/clubcsaipan

www.facebook/clubcsaipan

2 owners of company indicted over alleged CW1 scheme

The two owners of a company were indicted in federal court for allegedly engaging in fraud in the applications for CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program (CW1) permits.

Mizanur Khan, president and part owner of K.C.A. Corp., was charged with four counts of fraud and misuse of visas and permits and two counts of mail fraud.

Kosuke Tomokiyo, vice president and part owner of K.C.A. Corp., was charged with only a count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Khan, who was arrested, pleaded not guilty during the initial appearance hearing last Monday.



Manglona

Khan's detention hearing will be today, Thursday, at 3pm.

The arraignment for Tomokiyo will also be today, Thursday, at 10:30am. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered

that Tomokiyo shall remain at liberty under his own personal recognizance.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley appeared for the government at the hearing.

According to the indictment, on Aug. 5, 2015, Khan falsely represented to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services that Kawsar Hamid, Monir Hossain, and Md. Abul

Hossen, would be employed by K.C.A. as an "operation service worker (charcoal maker)" and that they would be employed in that capacity for 40 hours per week, for a period of one year.

On Aug. 22, 2016, Khan and Tomokiyo allegedly falsely represented to USCIS that Tomokiyo had previously been and was to be employed

by K.C.A. as a "sales manager," and that Tomokiyo had been employed in that capacity since January 2016.

On June 6, 2015 and Aug. 22, 2016, Khan, for the purpose of executing the scheme allegedly delivered by the U.S. Postal Services and commercial interstate carrier DHL, respectively, several I-129CW petitions. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

LibDay queen to represent Saipan in Japan

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2018 Liberation Day queen is set to represent the Marianas in Nagoya, Japan this August.

According to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, the Saipan Mayor's Office will be sending Brinae Jessilyn Cruz to the 20th Annual Nippon Domannaka Festival along with the Liberation Day Royal Court chair Monique Boyer Sablan. The festival is believed to be the largest cultural festival in Nagoya.

"They will be going to the cultural festival in Japan... to participate in it with the MVA (Marianas Visitors Authority) and represent the CNMI," he said.

Apatang said that he sends Liberation Day queens to the Domannaka Festival for the past few years because it allows them to get exposed to a different culture at a young age.

"We always send our queens to Japan to experience an international culture...that's one way to get experience and they also get to promote the CNMI with MVA...that's our main reason for sending them there," he said.

According to Sablan, Cruz will serve as a youth ambassador of the CNMI during the Domannaka Festival that will last five days.

"They do this every year... it's something that the mayor's office gets invited to and it's a good opportunity for him to



Liberation Day Queen Brinae Jessilyn Cruz, middle, is set to represent the CNMI in Nagoya this August at the 20th Annual Nippon Domannaka Festival.

showcase the new Liberation Day queen and give her the chance to travel off-island to represent the island as kind of like an ambassador," she said.

Sablan believes that this is a great opportunity to have Cruz expose herself to greater opportunities.

It's a great opportunity...

and this gives candidates something to look forward to... and one thing about these girls is that they are very young so it's a great opportunity for them to get out there," she said.

Sablan and Cruz are scheduled to leave this Aug. 24 to attend the five-day festival.

Nominations now open for Guam Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame

TAMUNING, Guam—The office of Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr., is once again pleased to announce that the 7th Annual Guam Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame and Married Couple Recognition celebration will take place on Saturday, August 18, 2018.

Nominations are officially open for the program. Nominees for the Hall of Fame must be 65 years or older and married couples must be married 60 years or longer.

The Guam Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame was initiated to celebrate the great lifetime achievements of our beloved island *man'amko*. Their impacts and contributions to our island home are immense and are worthy of a celebration to remember their legacies as our island pioneers.

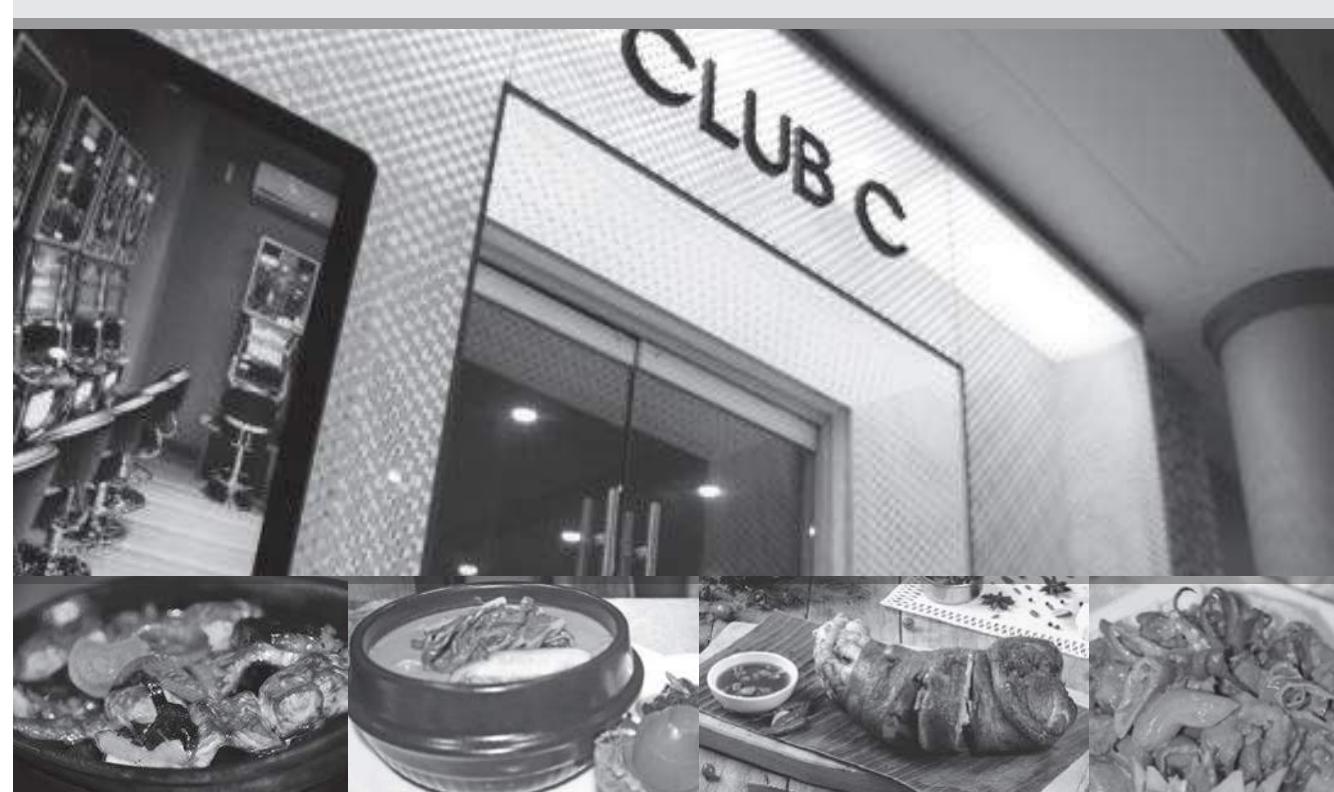
This annual celebration of the Guam Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame and Married Couple program is one of Sen.

Rodriguez and his wife Lena's initiatives to honor and celebrate our islands' *man'amko*. It is the only program that recognizes an exceptional senior citizen and couples who have been married for 60 years and over. As a tradition and policy set by the senator, no government funds are being expended for the celebration.

"Our *man'amko* are the pillars of our island. They have helped shape the specialness of Guam. We all have a special *man'amko* that has made a positive impact in our lives, and this celebration is a perfect opportunity to recognize and honor them," Rodriguez stated.

Nominations are now being accepted and will end at 5pm on Monday, Aug. 6, 2018.

For nomination forms or more information, please contact the office of Rodriguez at 649-8638/0511 or visit www.toduguam.com, click on Hall of Fame poster link. (PR)



WUSHIN
Committed to Safety Excellence

Lower Base, P.O. Box 500440
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 322-7415, 322-8733
Fax: 322-7414
Email: wushin2@pticom.com

NMHC voucher program to re-open

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. aims to re-open its Section 8 voucher program due to its low waiting list count.

Last Monday, the NMHC held a public hearing to discuss its Streamlined 5-year

Annual PHA Plan.

To successfully transition into the next five-year plan, NMHC is required by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development to have about 500 new applicants on the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) waiting list in order to grant NMHC the funding to contin-

ue to run the program.

Unfortunately, there are currently only 108 families on NMHC's waiting list and is in need of over 300 more before the start of the next fiscal year.

On Monday NMHC will re-open the Sec-



Palacios

tion 8 voucher program that was closed early on in the last five-year plan so families can start filling out applications.

The Section 8 voucher program aids low-income

families in their housing needs. The Section 8 program allows private landlords to rent apartments and homes at fair market rates to qualified low-income tenants, with a rental subsidy.

According to NMHC director Jesse Palacios, NMHC has been troubled with the recent response rates received from

families on the waiting list and encourages families to make sure that all contact information are correct so that they do not miss the opportunity to avail of a voucher.

Palacios said that in the last four years, 315 vouchers have been given out and there are 48 more to be given.

Interested voucher applicants may visit the NMHC starting on Monday, June 23, to fill out an application.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Movie Night at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

In a teens-only night, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be hosting a free movie night from 5:30pm to 8:00pm on Friday, July 19. The movie will be *Independence Day*, and is 2 hours and 33 minutes long, and is rated PG-13. Because the showing will be in the teen area of the library, participants are invited to bring along pillows, blankets, and comfy clothes in order to enjoy the movie. Popcorn will be provided!

Library card required to participate. To sign up, follow this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/dddhinyHjUPtWokq2>, or sign up on-site in the library. Questions? Call the library at 235-READ or email emily.jkpl@gmail.com.

For the latest news and events, please visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. The library's summer hours are as follows (effective June 12-Aug. 4): Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. (PR)

JKPL Library closed on July 21st, 2018

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on Saturday, July 21, in order to participate in the Liberation Day Parade scheduled that day. The library will reopen for regular summer hours on Tuesday, July 24, 2018. Please enjoy the parade with family and friends!

For the latest news and events, please visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. The library's summer hours are as follows (effective June 12-Aug. 4): Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. (PR)

MLSC seeks donations for school supplies project

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. is accepting cash or in-kind donations as part of

its annual project to provide school supplies to needy children in the CNMI.

New school supplies or cash donations may be dropped off at MLSC's Marianas Office in the VS Sablan Building, Chalan Piao (same building as the Subway sandwich shop).

Checks may be dropped off or mailed to us at PO Box 500826, Saipan, MP 96950 or you may call MLSC at 234-7729 and they will pick-up donations.

MLSC hopes to deliver at least 100 new backpacks with supplies to children in low-income households. MLSC identifies needy children from its work and from referrals made by Karidat Social Services and others.

MLSC is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your generous donations are tax-deductible. (PR)

VA direct loan program outreach on July 24

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp., in collaboration with the United States Department of Veterans Af-

fairs, will be conducting outreach services regarding VA Native American Direct Loan Program for all the CNMI veterans. A representative from the Department of Veterans Office will be present to answer any questions regarding the program. The outreach will be held on July 24, 2018, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan from 9am to 11:30am. For more information you may contact the NMHC Mortgage and Credit Division staff at (670)234-6866/9447/7670 or you may email Ms. Cherie Castanares, VA Representative, at cherie.castanares@va.gov or contact her at (808)433-0483. (PR)

Lower Base Transfer Station, Marpi Landfill closed on Saturday

In observance of the 2018 Liberation Day parade, the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill will be closed at 1:30pm on Saturday, July 21, 2018. However, both facilities will open through lunch

(11:30am-12:30pm). Normal operations will resume on Monday, July 23, 2018. (PR)

MHS SY 2019 student orientations schedule

Marianas High School will be conducting their school year 2018-2019 Student Orientations. Schedules are as follow:

■ Incoming freshmen and new transfer students (all grade levels): Aug. 8, 2018, 9am-12pm – School Gym

■ Ongoing Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors: August 9, 2018 . 9am-11am -School Gym

Registration is ongoing. Students will need to furnish a copy of their birth certificate, an updated health certificate, an updated student insurance, a copy of their 8th grade diploma (incoming freshmen), an official transcript (if transferring from another high school) along with a completed registration form. Last day to register will be on July 26, 2018. (PR)

NMHC voucher program list to open

July 23

Pursuant to Section 5.1[1] of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.'s Section 8 Administrative Plan, this is to inform the general public

that NMHC is opening its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program's (HCVP) waiting list starting July 23, 2018. The waitlist will remain open until it reaches its maximum number of applicants. Interested families

may pick up an application at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, or visit our website at www.nmhcgov.net to download an application. Please submit your application in person at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, from Monday through Friday (except holidays) between 8am and 4pm. NMHC is not accepting on-line submission of applications as of this time.

■ NMHC Main Office
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
■ Tinian Field Office

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

■ Rota Field Office

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

NMHC Housing specialists will review the applications and formally contact applicants to schedule an eligibility appointment. For more information, please contact NMHC at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9446 (Saipan), 433-9213 (Tinian), or 532-9410 (Rota). (PR)

Release of PH passports announced

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, has announced the release of Philippine passports to those who renewed their passports on May 21, 22, and 23, 2018. You can pick up your passports at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg D, 2nd Floor, top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (12pm-1pm break time).

Bring old passport and receipt. For any inquiries or details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and Programmable Technology
- Custom Communication Devices

■ **Wednesday, July 25th 9:00am - 4:00pm**
at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan



**Ross
Hearing
Aids**

All interested patients should call
Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid



Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing
Instrument Sciences
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 142
Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Trump dances to Putin's choreography

The much-awaited summit in Helsinki between President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin certainly had the stuff of spectacle. There they were, Vlad and the Dealmaker, dancing around questions of meddling, Ukraine and Syria like two Fred Astaires. It all went according to the program. Unfortunately, a program choreographed by Putin.

Americans and much of the rest of the world had wondered whether and how Trump would confront Putin over Russian interference in the U.S. presidential election. Heightening the curiosity: the Justice Department's blockbuster indictments last week accusing 12 Russian military intelligence agents of hacking into Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign, the Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and state boards of elections.

The summit afforded Trump an ideal setting to bluntly tell the ex-KGB agent that America won't stand for tampering with a U.S. election—a message particularly resonant with midterm elections just around the corner. He could have sounded tough, inflexible even, on an issue so pivotal to American democracy.

Instead, at a news conference following the meeting with Putin, Trump not only came across mealy-mouthed, he expressed doubt about his own intelligence community's findings about Russia's involvement in meddling in the presidential campaign. "They think it's Russia," Trump said, referring to American intelligence officials. "I have President Putin—he just said it's not Russia. I don't see any reason why it would be."

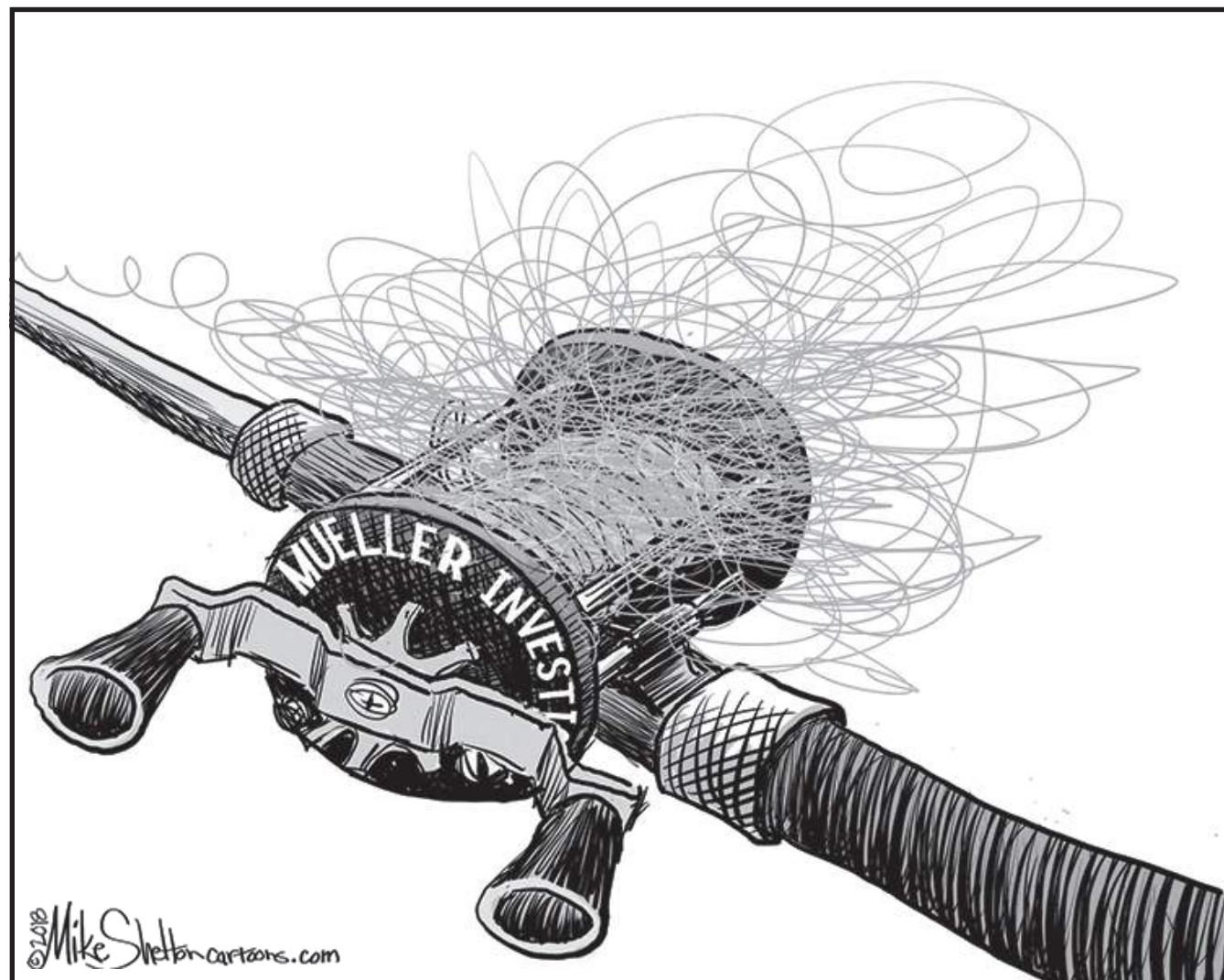
How about 12 reasons—the 12 indicted Russian spies? It's hard to size up what's riskier: Putin the mischief-maker or an American president who refuses to believe his own intelligence community's legwork on Putin's chicanery. Last week, Trump's director of national intelligence, Dan Coats, likened the Russian cyberattack to the U.S. to the specter of terrorism in the lead-up to the Sept. 11 attacks on America. "The warning lights are blinking red again," Coats said.

The risk is real, Mr. President, and it's ominous. At the core of Putin's playbook is this credo: If the subterfuge works, then use it again. Failing to see the peril in Putin's ways endangers America and its allies. "The president must appreciate that Russia is not our ally," House Speaker Paul Ryan, a Republican from Wisconsin, said after the Putin-Trump news conference. Russia, he added, "remains hostile to our most basic values and ideals."

When the question of the Russian agents' extradition to the U.S. came up, Putin injected a plot twist. Instead of flatly refusing such a demand or handing over the agents to the U.S. to face trial, Putin suggested that U.S. special counsel Robert Mueller's investigators could travel to Russia to observe while Russian officials question the 12 agents about their actions. In return, though, Washington would have to allow Russian agents to conduct investigative work in the U.S. on topics that interest Moscow. Trump should have laughed at the idea—instead he called Putin's nonsense "a generous offer."

Mueller is seasoned enough to know Russian officials questioning Russian intelligence agents about a Russian plot to meddle in an American presidential election isn't worth a ruble. If Mueller and his team do end up making the journey, however, one word of caution once they arrive in Moscow: Don't drink the tea.

©2018 Chicago Tribune



Trump's deference to Putin is less about collusion than character

Last week, I wrote that the best way to think about a Trump Doctrine is as nothing more than Trumpism on the international stage. By Trumpism, I do not mean a coherent ideological program, but a psychological phenomenon, or simply the manifestation of his character.

Monday, we literally saw President Trump on an international stage, in Helsinki, and he seemed hell-bent on proving me right.

During a joint news appearance with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Trump demonstrated that, when put to the test, he cannot see any issue through a prism other than his grievances and ego.

In a performance that should elicit some resignations from his administration, the president sided with Russia over America's national security community, including Dan Coats, the Trump-appointed director of national intelligence.

Days ago, Coats issued a blistering warning that not only had Russia meddled in our election—undisputed by almost everyone save the president himself—but that it is preparing to do so again. But when asked about Russian interference in Helsinki, Trump replied, "All I can do is ask the question. My people came to me, Dan Coats came to me and some others. They said they think it's Russia. I have President Putin. He just said it's not Russia. I will say this. I don't see any reason why it would be [Russia]. ... I have confidence in both parties."

Separately, when asked about the frosty relations between the two countries, Trump said, "I hold both countries responsible. ... I think we're all to blame. ... I do feel that we have both made some mistakes."

Amid these and other appalling statements, Trump made it clear that he can only understand the investigation into Russian interference as an attempt to rob him of credit for his electoral victory, and thus to delegitimize his presidency.

For most people with a grasp of the facts—supporters and critics alike—the question of Russian interference and the question of Russian collusion with the Trump campaign are separate. Russia did interfere in the election, full stop. Whether there was collusion is still an open question, even if many Trump supporters have made up their minds about it. Whether Russian interference, or collusion, got Trump over the finish line is ultimately unknowable, though I think it's very unlikely.

But for Trump these distinctions are meaningless. Even

By JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg's new book, "Suicide of the West," is now available wherever books are sold. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by e-mail at goldbergcolumn@gmail.com, or via Twitter @JonahNRO.



when his own Department of Justice indicts 12 Russian intelligence agents, the salient issue for Trump in Helsinki is that "they admit these are not people involved in the campaign." All you need to know is: We ran a brilliant campaign, and that's why I'm president.

The great parlor game in Washington (and beyond) is to theorize why Trump is so incapable of speaking ill of Putin and so determined to make apologies for Russia.

Among the self-styled "resistance," the answer takes several sometimes overlapping, sometimes contradictory forms. One theory is that the Russians have "kompromat"—that is, embarrassing or incriminating intelligence on Trump. Another is that he is a willing asset of the Russians—"Agent Orange"—with whom he colluded to win the presidency.

These theories can't be wholly dismissed, even if some overheated versions get way ahead of the available facts. But their real shortcoming is that they are less plausible than the Aesopian explanation: This is who Trump is. Even if Russia hadn't meddled in the election at all, Trump would still admire Putin because Trump admires men like Putin—which is why he's praised numerous other dictators and strongmen.

The president's steadfast commitment to a number of policies—anomosity toward NATO, infatuation with protectionism, an Obama-esque obsession with eliminating nuclear weapons, and his determination that a "good relationship" with Russia should be a policy goal rather than a means to one—may have some ideological underpinning. (These policies all seem to be rooted in intellectual fads of the 1980s.)

But Trump's stubborn refusal to listen to his own advisers in the matter of the Russia investigation likely stems from his inability to admit that his instincts are ever wrong. As always, Trump's character trumps all.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LITERARY NOOK
By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON'
CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

Falling rats caught lesson taught

"Go and catch a falling star"—John Donne, 1633

Gone before two years over 60% of my staff and cabinet my daughter and son-in-law are both still in place here I know all the best non political minds you can ever vet now another new Supreme Court Justice that I can steer.

I heard Flynn, Manafort, and Cohen are all singing Mueller has them and more all into deep flipping binds but with promises of a full pardon which I am bringing he'll have a hard time prying into their twisted minds.

The country is getting familiar with their faces what these three will say we have yet to hear a grand jury will take them through their paces from now until well past the election this year.

I'll just keep tweeting my ignorant online policy Fake News if you like, I write a lot, believe me.

STORM INTO A MAELSTROM

"The thunder is not yet rain"—an African proverb meaning the thunder is forecasting the coming of the storm. When you hear the thunder in the distance it gives you time to prepare.

All people in the United States are in the midst of a maelstrom a tragic and tempestuous whirlpool stirred up by our leader poorly thought out tariff and immigration policies on and on frightening speeches and interviews preceded by the tweeter tweets are the lightning followed by loud campaign thunder misspelled words grammar mistakes many misunderstandings people become immune to the BS storm we are living under insults to long time allies policy babble golf course landings cabinet departures some fired new hired few originals left some indicted, some arrested, some already locked in jail many including family abusive of their power and tax theft more on their way out as their demanding king they fail two popular 2020 campaign chants will be without a doubt you pick, 'LOCK HIM UP' and/or 'VOTE HIM OUT'.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Have patience

Around last month, a video taken from a surveillance camera went viral on social media. Two female tourists were walking at the side of Beach Road, until a car drives up behind them and hits one lady (De La Torre, Ferdie. "Tourist hurt in hit-and-run" *Saipan Tribune*, 12 June 2018). Whether it was an accident or not, this action badly affects our island community.

I am writing this to express my concern of the safety on our island and the importance of tourism. I know that is common sense to have sidewalks on both sides of the road, which should've been done a long time ago. However, tourists should also know the boundaries. According to Daniel Durkin at the comments of the article "Tourist hurt in hit-and-run," he brings up his experience with tourists walking on the roads—which happens often on our island.

Perhaps a solution to this could be for companies involving tourists (such as the airport, hotels, or car rental companies) to give a brief explanation on safety. As for the locals living here, please have patience on tourists since the industry brings a lot for our islands.

Ramhae Awit

Marianas High School student

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A 9-year-old girl gets unexpected justice when her abuser gets prison

Thirty-seven-year-old Chris Moore of Marion, Iowa took the witness stand in the Story County Courthouse to read a victim impact statement. In a firm but tearful voice, he told the 73-year-old man who had sexually abused his daughter: "For 30-some odd years, there was a man that I held more respect for than anyone else. I placed him on a pedestal, not knowing the dark secret that had been withheld from me."

That man was his father, James Moore, who took a plea agreement June 4 to lascivious acts with his 9-year-old granddaughter.

"This monster stole the innocence of my little girl," Chris Moore continued Monday. "She is not the same anymore. Though children know there are evil people, he continued, "it is usually not someone who is supposed to protect them and keep them safe."

The hushed courtroom also would hear statements from the 9-year-old, read aloud by a prosecutor, and from her mother, brother and maternal grandfather.

All described a vibrant child who used to spring out of bed announcing "It's a beautiful day" but now fears leaving the house. They spoke of the depression and post-traumatic stress that have had her in therapy for about 10 months. They recounted how she would hit, kick, scream and cry when she had to go to school her fourth-grade year, and how she had to be literally carried in and handed over to a staff member.

Sometimes her uncontrollable rage and property destruction would land her in a small, cold, empty "quiet room" with a concrete floor. "I hated being in there," she wrote.

Her parents believed their daughter, now 10, from the minute she came into their room the morning after the events of last August. But some of Chris Moore's family sided with his father and distanced themselves from the couple and their daughter when they chose to go to police and file charges.

James Moore's supporters submitted letters to the court describing a devoted Christian, husband, father and grandfather. They noted his military service in Vietnam and Cuba, his help rescuing a man from a burning truck and his charitable donations. Chris Moore's mother, Colette, said her husband "would never drive by a stranded motorist or leave another person in a dangerous situation."

The Rev. Tom Nesbitt of the Ames Cornerstone Church wrote of James Moore: "He is a dear and humble man, greatly broken over what he is accused of and genuinely repentant over any activity that places his Christian testimony, marriage and family relations in any measure of question."

It's bad enough these letters don't mention the victim, and that the last one sidesteps James Moore's admission to a Class C felony. But it is deeply disturbing that anyone could suggest going to church or giving to charity could cancel out molesting a child, or otherwise, try to normalize such aberrant behavior. Lisa Moore testified that her husband, Chris, has lost relations with his mother, father and two sisters over this. Enablers must carry that on their consciences, too.

Under the negotiated plea agreement, James Moore was to get a suspended 10-year sentence and serve no prison time and would appear on the Iowa sex offender registry. Asked by District Judge Bethany Currie if he had anything to say, he said he was ashamed and sorry and prayed for forgiveness.

After a few more formalities, the judge, who was appointed just last month, caught everyone by surprise, overriding the plea agreement and imposing an actual sentence of up to 10 years. That left Chris and Lisa Moore jubilant and some on the other side in tears, but declining to be interviewed. "Just say we love him and we support him," said one sobbing woman.

County Attorney Jessica Reynolds said later that it's unusual in her experience for a judge not to follow a plea agreement, but that she supports this decision. Reynolds had seen a plea bargain as a way to protect the child from the trauma of being deposed.

"Child sexual abuse is so horrific, it changes who people are and the course of their lives," she said, adding that based on her experience in three Iowa counties, it is rampant and vastly under-reported. Often the families just keep the child apart from the abuser. But these parents, she said, "did exactly what they needed to do. They believed their child. They reported it. They didn't make excuses."

This column has expressed frustration with Iowa's justice system for letting sex offenders off with no jail time. In federal courts, 98 percent of people charged with child sex crimes go to

By REKHA BASU

Des Moines Register



Rekha Basu is a columnist for the Des Moines Register.

prison, and serve an average of 139 months. But in Iowa courts, offenders often get probation. And then there is the statute of limitations, which requires criminal charges in child sex-abuse cases to be brought within 10 years after the victim turns 18. While other states have done away with limits, despite documented child abuse cases going back generations, Iowa Democratic lawmakers' proposals to loosen the statute were blocked by the Republican majority in the last legislative session.

Had they passed, this story might have had an even more powerful ending.

In the course of investigating James Moore, reports from the Story County Sheriff's Department show, an investigator interviewed at least four other female relatives who said they, too, had been abused by him as children. One of those was James Moore's biological daughter, Jill Beard, who is estranged from the family because of it.

Now 50, she lives in Missouri, and told me in a phone interview that she left Iowa in her 20s because of the abuse. She told police that began when she was about 8 and lasted till she was 12, and that it included removing her clothes and touching her vagina and putting his penis in her hands. In that police interview last December, she mentioned four other women who had said he did sexual things to them. The report said James Moore had admitted to looking through a window at one girl when she was showering.

But Beard never told anyone until about 13 years ago, when she wrote her parents and grandparents a letter. "It's so ugly. You feel so much shame your entire life," she said. "All the people around you love him so much." Because it was past the statute of limitations, criminal charges could not be brought in her case.

The letter prompted a visit from James Moore's wife, (her stepmother) Colette, "to tell me what a hero I was." It also, according to the police report, prompted Colette to leave James for about six months, when he was supposed to be getting treatment. Beard told me she later ran into her father, who apologized briefly. So Beard wept with joy after getting the call Monday about his sentence.

"I just released 45 years of holding it in," she said.

A niece of James Moore's, Nichole Ledbetter, also told me in a phone interview from her Ohio residence that he abused her multiple times about 30 years ago, when she was in third and fourth grades. She was interviewed by the same Story County investigator in January, who wrote in his report that she said she had told her parents as a child and again in college and in her 30s, but they didn't believe her. Her mother, Carmen, is Colette's sister. Ledbetter told police the abuse consisted of digital penetration, and that she had watched him do the same thing to another girl related to him.

"Nichole recently called Colette, who told Nichole she believed that Jim did abuse her, and apologized," the police report says.

After James Moore's recent arrest, Ledbetter said her parents paid her a visit to say they now believe her. Ledbetter's mother also attended James Moore's plea agreement hearing and sentencing, sitting on Chris Moore's family's side of the aisle.

Ledbetter attributes several failed marriages and a lot of counseling to the abuses.

Had the Iowa Legislature done the right thing last year, other women could have had their day in court. But for now, Beard and Ledbetter savor a gutsy 9-year-old's victory as their own. Maybe this young girl and her parents will serve as examples and beacons of hope to other children and their families to speak up, believe and support your kids, and protect other people's by reporting abuses to police.

And maybe by signaling she means business, this judge will shock others into checking their own responses. Meanwhile, never, ever make excuses for people who prey sexually on children, no matter how much they may pray in church.

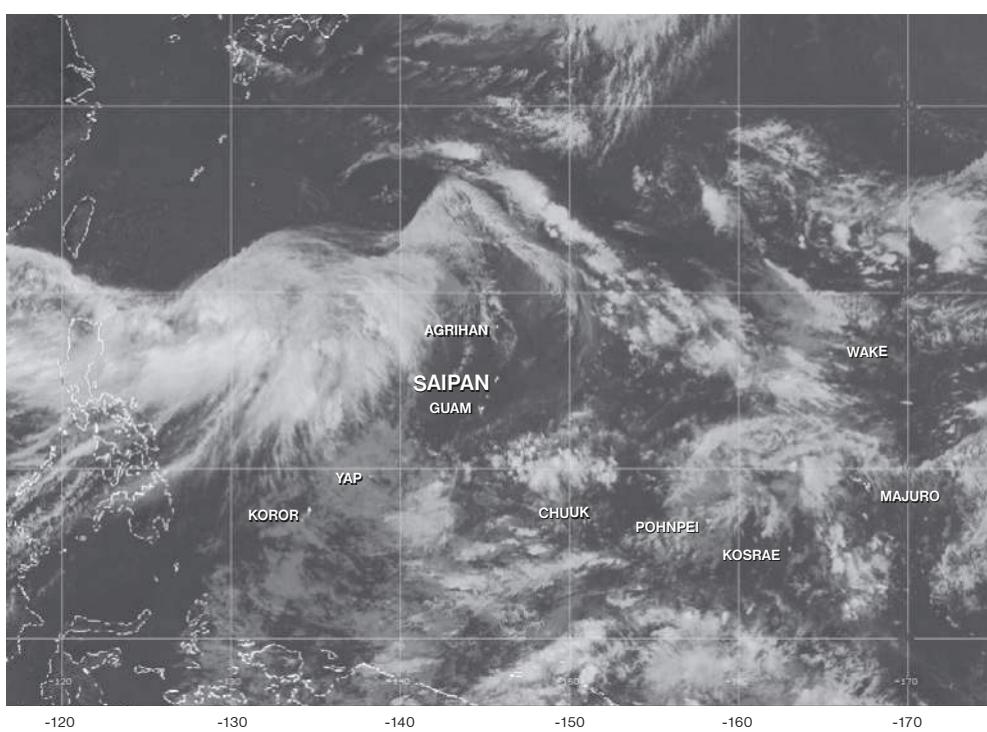
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲ 86°	▼ 76°	▲ 86°	▼ 76°	▲ 87°	▼ 76°	▲ 87°	▼ 77°	▲ 87°	▼ 77°
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:11 AM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A partly cloudy sky with light wind prevailed across the Marianas early this morning. There were a few showers, mainly south of Guam. Combined seas were 3 to 5 feet at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86°	/	79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	84°	/	78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86°	/	79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85°	/	80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87°	/	77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87°	/	77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85°	/	80°

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Sunny	59°	/	46°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	93°	/	79°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90°	/	81°	
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	87°	/	75°	
London	Mostly Cloudy	82°	/	61°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	86°	/	71°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	84°	/	79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59°	/	43°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	89°	/	80°	
New York	Sunny	84°	/	68°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	97°	/	81°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	66°	
Busan	Sunny	88°	/	79°	
Rome	Sunny	91°	/	68°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	72°	
San Francisco	Sunny	69°	/	58°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	93°	/	73°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	91°	/	81°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	87°	/	69°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
 ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
 ■ *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
 ■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET

12:41 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.99
07:12 AM	LOW TIDE	0.66
12:27 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.52
6:52 PM	LOW TIDE	0.40

DAY SUNRISE SUNSET

Today	5:55 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:56 AM	6:49 PM

DAY MOONRISE MOONSET MOONRISE

Today	11:43 AM	11:58 PM	-
Friday	12:35 PM	-	-
Saturday	-	12:39 AM	1:26 PM
Sunday	-	1:21 AM	2:17 PM
Monday	-	2:04 AM	3:08 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117 8:45am 9:30am Daily				UA117 7:00am 7:45am Daily			
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451 3:10am 6:10am 1, 7				7C3452 9:00pm 2:10am+1 4			
7C3451 4:00am 7:05am 4, 5				7C3452 9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308 2:00am 6:05am Daily				7C3402 9:30am 3:00pm Daily			
OZ626 2:10am 6:00am 1				OZ625 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7			
OZ626 2:50am 6:40am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				TW307 7:45pm 1:00am+1 Daily			
LJ652 3:40am 7:30am 1, 4, 5, 7				OZ625 8:20pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6			
7C3403 4:45am 8:30am Daily				LJ651 9:10pm 2:40am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
7C3401 4:00pm 7:45pm Daily				7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 Daily			
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648 5:40am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7				3U8647 10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)				HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396 7:30am 12:00pm 1				JD395 8:25am 3:30pm 4			
JD396 4:50pm 10:00pm 4				JD395 9:55pm 5:00am+1 7			
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6				3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5			
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			



TRUCKLOAD SALE

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM • SUNDAY 11AM TO 6PM

OPEN SUNDAYS 11AM - 6PM



ASSORTED CERAMIC TABLE LAMPS

\$1295



YETI TUMBLER

DEAL OF THE WEEK

\$895



\$13995

CHILDREN'S RIDE ON REMOTE CONTROL CAR CK3002



\$1795

PILL TYPE PORTABLE STEREO SPEAKERS CK SPE 100



\$49995

VIZIO 40" CLASSIC 1080P 120Hz LED SMART TV



\$3595

NORTHWEST DIRECTOR'S CHAIR WITH TABLE



ALPHA PORTABLE BUTANE STOVE

\$1295



\$5595

STEREO SPEAKER SYSTEM CK806



\$1095

PLASTIC HIGH BACK STACKABLE CHAIRS WITH SIDE ARMS



WOOD AND METAL FRAME TABLE ROUND OR SQUARE

\$2195



\$2995

COLEMAN BBQ 3PC TOOL SET





TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from KMArt

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS! • STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM • SUNDAY 11AM TO 6PM

TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from KMArt

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS! • STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM • SUNDAY 11AM TO 6PM

Customers First TRIPLE J

Product Prices:

- GIBSON HOME ALUMINUM COOKWARE SET WITH CERAMIC COATING: \$69.95
- KITCHEN KNIFE: \$23.95
- SAVE ZONE BUTANE GAS PER PACK: \$3.95
- NORTHWEST TERRITORY ALUMINUM CAMPING COT: \$42.95
- ASSORTED COLOR SLEEPING BAGS: \$12.95
- FISHING ROD: \$16.95
- POULAN GAS CHAIN SAW: \$169.95
- INFINIFLO 100FT LIGHT DUTY HOSE: \$19.95
- GARDEN HEDGE TRIMMER: \$6.95
- JERUSALEM RUG 5X7: \$79.95
- DYNASTY HOME 6FTX8FT VINYL: \$24.95
- PREMIUM ARTIFICIAL GRASS: \$35.95
- OSTER 8 SPEED 450W GLASS JAR BLENDER: \$49.95
- HAMILTON BEACH JUICE EXTRACTOR: \$59.95
- 5 PIECE PITCHER SET CK-WAT100: \$3.95
- PLASTIC WATER DISPENSERS: \$7.95
- RIVERSIDE 13PC SHOWER CURTAIN: \$6.95
- 3 LAYER LADDER: \$21.95
- GREY HD PLASTIC TRASH BIN WITH LID: \$15.95
- DAHDOL STANDARD TOWEL 27"X54": \$4.95
- 10 PIECE HAND TOWEL SET: \$7.95
- GLOBAL GEAR PILOT CASE: \$28.95
- LITTLE TIRES CLIMB SWING: \$169.95
- WESLO PURSUIT E26 EXERCISE BIKE: \$149.95
- RIP STICK BOARDS: \$14.95
- STERILITE 60QT LATCH STORAGE: \$15.95
- TV WALL MOUNT 32 TO 72 INCHES: \$26.95
- PEAK 1200 AMP JUMP STARTER: \$99.95
- SAMSUNG 200W SOUNDBAR WITH WIRELESS SUBWOOFER: \$259.95
- DAHDOL STANDARD TOWEL 27"X54": \$4.95
- 10 PIECE HAND TOWEL SET: \$7.95
- GLOBAL GEAR PILOT CASE: \$28.95
- FLEXIBLE WARDROBE CLOSET: \$18.95
- COSCO MY TIME PLAY YARD: \$79.95
- DELUXE UMBRELLA STROLLER: \$69.95
- ASSORTED CUSHIONED EVA FLOOR MATS: \$9.95



CSR manager Alex Palacios and coordinator Edilynn Benjamin drop off the donation to Empty Vessel Ministry.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

2ND TIME AROUND PROJECT

IPI donates 50 boxes of clothing

Imperial Pacific International's initiative supporting the community continues with at least 11 nonprofit organizations and government agencies getting clothing donations to support their outreach programs.

Under the "2nd Time Around Project," a clothing drive of IPI's Corporate Social Responsibility program, the said nonprofit organizations and government agencies received more than 50 boxes of clothing. These include slacks/pants, button-up shirts, and blazers, among others.

IPI-CSR donated to the Office on Aging, Empty Vessel Ministry, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program (HOPE Recovery Center), Women's Affairs Office, Ayuda Network, Respite Care Service Program, Domestic Violence Awareness Coalition, Veterans Affairs Office, Commonwealth Women's Association, and Karidat Social Services.

The donations were held from July 13 to 17, directly to these 11 nonprofit organization and government agencies-partners of IPI.

The "2nd Time Around

Project" was pioneered last year with the largest private sector employer in the region partnering with the CNMI Drug Court. Since then, Imperial Pacific's CSR began expanding the initiative.

It has also partnered with the CNMI's Office of Sub-

Continued on Next Page



Maternal and Child Health Bureau H.O.M.E. Visiting project coordinator Yuline Fitial; quality improvement specialist Jodina Attao, and family partner advocate supervisor Lena Wabol with IPI- CSR coordinator Edillyn Bnejamin happily accept the donation. This will be given to the clients of their program.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW18-IFB-019

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PARKING AREA FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, CAPITOL HILL

Governor Ralph D. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Construction of New Parking Area for the Department of Commerce, Capitol Hill, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **July 12, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on **July 27, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 3, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addendum, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW18-IFB-019". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time August 13, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, August 13, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **August 13, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **August 20, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, August 22, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on August 13, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Forty Five (45) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP NO.: RFP18-DCCA/CCDF-120

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 06, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"TO PROVIDE COACHING AND OTHER ON-SITE INDIVIDUALIZED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND TRAINING WORKSHOPS ACTIVITIES FOR CCDF PROVIDERS TO SUPPORT THE CNMI QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM (QRIS) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301 CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MS. MARIBEL LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR VIA EMAIL TO ccdf.maribelloste@gmail.com OR VIA FACSIMILE TO (670)664-2547, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 23, 2018**.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE, BUILDING 1347, ASCENCION COURT IN CAPITAL HILL, SAIPAN ON **JULY 27, 2018 AT 10:00 A.M.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



Staff members of the Office on Aging gladly pose with the donation.

stance Abuse and Rehabilitation (HOPE Recovery Center). SAR manages the HOPE Recovery Center and has initially identified that the immediate needs are clothes for program participants as they begin anew rebuilding their

lives back through their desires to seek employment.

IPI, through its CSR, currently has 11 community partners whose community building and outreach programs have benefited from the "2nd Time Around" program. (PR)



Velma Del Rosario of the Veterans Affairs Office.



Staff from the Commonwealth Women's Association.



Diana Camacho of Ayuda Network.



Women's Affairs director Doris Drew beams with boxes of donations.



Froilan Tenorio from the Respite Care Service Program.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB 18-BECQ-125**

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 20, 2018 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

**“OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL
AND COASTAL QUALITY (TINIAN BRANCH)”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCIION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH THE CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-21, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A-D)

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

*/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ*

*/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY*

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**
**INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB 18-CHCC/WIC-004**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 2, 2018 TIME: 11:00AM

**“MINIVAN”
WIC**

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED -UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER*

*/S/ PRISCILLA M. JAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S*

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP18-BECQ-124**

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 20, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

**“GROUNDWATER MONITORING SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS EVENT –
FORMER W-2 SERVICE STATION IN THE CNMI FOR THE
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCIION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL TO **MR. RAY MASGA, DIRECTOR OF DEO, AT raymasga@deo.gov.mp** **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, 4:30PM, LOCAL TIME, AUGUST 10, 2018.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

*/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ*

*/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY*

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/CGC-009**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 13, 2018 TIME: 11:00AM

**“STRATEGIC PREVENTION FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP
FOR SUCCESS” COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION”**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED -UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER*

*/S/ PRISCILLA M. JAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S*

Business

IN PUSH TO AVOID LIABILITY MGM sues Vegas shooting victims

LAS VEGAS (AP)—MGM Resorts International has sued hundreds of victims of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history in a bid to avoid liability for the gunfire that rained down from its Mandalay Bay casino-resort in Las Vegas.

The company argues in lawsuits filed in Nevada, California, New York and other states this week and last that it has “no liability of any kind” to survivors or families of slain victims under a federal law enacted after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The lawsuits target victims who have sued the company and voluntarily dismissed their claims or have threatened to sue after a gunman shattered the windows of his Mandalay Bay suite and fired on a crowd gathered below for a country music festival.

High-stakes gambler Stephen Paddock killed 58 people and injured hundreds more last year before killing himself. Victims with active lawsuits against MGM don’t face the company’s legal claim.

MGM says the 2002 law limits liabilities when a company or group uses services certified by the U.S. Department of

Homeland Security and mass attacks occur. The company says it is not liable because its security vendor for the concert, Contemporary Services Corp., was federally certified at the time of the Oct. 1 shooting.

MGM claims the victims—through actual and threatened lawsuits—have implicated CSC’s services because they involve concert security, including training, emergency response and evacuation.

“If defendants were injured by Paddock’s assault, as they allege, they were inevitably injured both because Paddock fired from his window and because they remained in the line of fire at the concert. Such claims inevitably implicate security at the concert—and may result in loss to CSC,” according to the MGM lawsuits.

CSC’s general counsel, James Service, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that it doesn’t comment on litigation involving the company or a third party.

MGM wants a court to declare that the U.S. law “precludes any finding of liability” against the company “for any claim for injuries arising out of or related to Paddock’s mass attack.”

Brian Claypool, an attorney

who was at the music festival during the shooting, called the lawsuits a “hypocritical maneuver” that will turn into a “public relations nightmare for MGM.”

“We collectively view this as a bullying tactic to intimidate the survivors who are rightfully seeking social change and redress through the litigation process,” Claypool, who represents dozens of victims, said in a statement.

MGM spokeswoman Debra DeShong said Congress determined that federal courts should handle any lawsuits over mass attacks where federally certified security services were provided.

“While we expected the litigation that followed, we also feel strongly that victims and the community should be able to recover and find resolution in a timely manner,” she said in a statement Tuesday.

Attorney Robert Eglet, who represents victims in a lawsuit pending in federal court in Nevada, also decried the casino operator’s move, saying the company is filing complaints nationwide in search of a sympathetic judge. He told AP he has been flooded with calls from victims.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Papa John’s founder: Stepping down as chairman a mistake

NEW YORK (AP)—Papa John’s founder John Schnatter says the pizza chain doesn’t know how to handle a “crisis based on misinformation” and that he made a “mistake” in agreeing to step down as chairman. Schnatter says the board requested that he step down as chairman without “any investigation” and he should not have complied, according to a letter his representative says was sent to the board Saturday. The contents of the letter were first reported by the Wall Street Journal. Papa John’s, which has started scrubbing Schnatter’s image from its marketing materials and says it is evaluating all ties with Schnatter, did not respond to a request for comment. The company said over the weekend it “specifically requested that Mr. Schnatter cease all media appearances, and not make any further statements to the media regarding the company, its business or employees.” Schnatter, who remains on Papa John’s board, is the company’s largest shareholder.

Lawmakers warn Trump tariffs threaten local newspapers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Members of Congress warned Tuesday that newspapers in their home states are in danger of reducing news coverage, laying off workers or going out of business if the United States maintains recently imposed tariffs on Canadian newsprint. The Trump administration ordered the tariffs in response to a complaint from a paper producer in Washington state. It argues that Canadian competitors take advantage of government subsidies to sell their product at unfairly low prices. About a dozen lawmakers testified Tuesday morning against making the tariffs permanent during a United States International Trade Commission hearing. The commission is reviewing whether U.S. producers of certain groundwood paper products, including newsprint, have been materially injured because of the imports from Canada. The commission’s findings help determine whether the Department of Commerce makes the tariffs permanent. Newsprint is generally the second-largest expense for

local papers. The tariffs have increased newsprint prices by 25 to 30 percent.

Texas Instruments’ new CEO loses job for personal misconduct

DALLAS (AP)—Texas Instruments has dumped CEO Brian Crutcher for personal misconduct less than two months after he took over the job, ruining the chip maker’s hopes for a smooth transition to new leadership. Crutcher resigned Tuesday after TI’s board determined he violated the company’s code of conduct with behavior the company said was not consistent with its ethics and core values. TI emphasized Crutcher’s transgression wasn’t related to its operations or finances. The company, however, declined to elaborate on what he did wrong in response to an inquiry. The Dallas company is bringing back Crutcher’s predecessor as CEO, TI Chairman Rich Templeton. Crutcher replaced Templeton as CEO June 1 as part of what the Dallas company described as a “well-planned succession” when the change was announced in January.

Nation

Trump backs off siding with Russia over US intelligence

WASHINGTON (AP)—Blistered by bipartisan condemnation of his embrace of a longtime U.S. enemy, President Donald Trump on Tuesday backed away from his public undermining of American intelligence agencies, saying he simply mispoke when he said he saw no reason to believe Russia had interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

Rebuked as never before by his own party, including a stern pushback from usually reserved Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, the U.S. president sought to end 27 hours of recrimination by delivering a rare admission of error.

“The sentence should have been, ‘I don’t see any reason why I wouldn’t, or why it wouldn’t be Russia’” instead of “why it would,” Trump said of the comments he had made standing alongside Vladimir Putin on Monday’s summit stage in Helsinki.

That didn’t explain why Trump, who had tweeted a half-dozen times and sat for two television interviews since the Putin news conference, waited so long to correct his remarks. And the scripted cleanup pertained only to the least defensible of his comments.

Immigrant children describe hunger and cold in detention

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—Wet and muddy from their trek across the Mexican border, immigrant children say they sat or lay on the cold, concrete floor of the immigration holding centers where they were taken.

It was hard to sleep with lights shining all night and guards kicking their feet, they say. They were hungry, after being given what they say were frozen sandwiches and smelly food.

Younger children cried in caged areas where they were crammed in with teens, and they clamored for their parents. Toilets were filthy, and running water was scarce, they say. They waited, unsure and frightened of what the future might bring.

“I didn’t know where my mother was,” said Griselda, 16, of Guatemala, who entered the U.S. with her mother in the McAllen, Texas, area. “I saw girls ask where their mothers were, but the



A woman holds a sign depicting Russian President Vladimir Putin and President Donald Trump during a protest outside the White House, Tuesday, July 17, 2018, in Washington. AP

He didn’t reverse other statements in which he gave clear credence to Putin’s “extremely strong and powerful” denial of Russian involvement, raised doubts about his own intelligence agencies’ conclusions and advanced discredited conspiracy theories about election meddling.

He also accused past American leaders, rather than Russia’s destabilizing actions in the U.S. and around the world, for the souring of relations between two countries. And he did not address his other problematic statements during a week-long Europe tour, in which he sent the NATO alliance into emergency session and assailed British Prime

Minister Theresa May as she was hosting him for an official visit.

“I accept our intelligence community’s conclusion that Russia’s meddling in the 2016 election took place,” Trump conceded Tuesday. But even then he made a point of adding, “It could be other people also. A lot of people out there. There was no collusion at all.”

Moments earlier, McConnell felt the need to reassure America’s allies in Europe with whom Trump clashed during his frenzied trip last week.

With no if’s or but’s, the GOP leader declared, “The European countries are our friends, and the Russians are not.”

guards would not tell them.”

The children’s descriptions of various facilities are part of a voluminous and at times scathing report filed in federal court this week in Los Angeles in a case over whether the Trump administration is meeting its obligations under a long-standing settlement governing how young immigrants should be treated in custody.

Dozens of volunteer lawyers, interpreters and other legal workers fanned out across the Southwest in June and July to interview more than 200 immigrant parents and children in holding facilities, detention centers and a youth shelter.

Advocates said the government isn’t complying with the decades-old Flores agreement, which lays out detention conditions and release requirements for immigrant children.

“They have spoken out loud and clear, and what

they’ve said is they are experiencing enforced hunger, enforced dehydration, enforced sleeplessness,” said Peter Schey, an attorney for the children who has asked the court to appoint a special monitor to enforce the agreement. “They are terrorized, and I think it is time for the courts and the public to hear their voices.”

The Department of Homeland Security, which oversees immigration and border enforcement, did not immediately comment. But in their own reports to the court last month, government monitors said that immigration authorities were complying with the settlement agreement.

In his report, Henry Moak Jr., juvenile coordinator for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, documented the air temperature as appropriate at a number of border facilities and said he drank the water himself from five-gallon containers at a processing center in McAllen.

Asia

Rohingya prepare as monsoon arrives

UKHIYA, Bangladesh (AP)—The hill on which the young woman's shelter is being built is so unstable that the earth crumbles under your feet. The threat of landslides is so dire that her neighbors have evacuated. Though living here could spell doom as the monsoon rains fall, she will live here anyway.

For Mustawkima, a Rohingya woman who fled Myanmar for the refugee camps of neighboring Bangladesh, there is no other option.

Hers is a dilemma repeated over and over for many of the 900,000 Rohingya refugees living in ramshackle huts across this unsteady landscape: With the long-dreaded monsoon season now upon them, they have run out of places to run.

For months, officials raced to relocate the most at-risk families to safer areas that had been bulldozed flat, but there simply isn't enough available land. Most refugees believe it is too dangerous to return to Myanmar, where the military launched a brutal campaign of

violence against the minority Rohingya Muslims last year. And so, as the rains begin to flood parts of the camps, many Rohingya find themselves trapped — by geography, by poverty and by fear.

The bamboo shelter on the crumbling hillside will be Mustawkima's third attempt at finding a home in the camps. She has had to do everything on her own: Her husband was killed when the military stormed their village in August 2017.

Mustawkima, who like some Rohingya uses only one name, abandoned her first shelter when the soil washed away. With five children under the age of 8, she wanted her new home to be close to relatives living at the base of the hill, so she erected a flimsy tarp halfway up. But when the rains began in June, the water quickly poured in, transforming her dirt floor into a muddy mess.

Frightened, she sold off some of her donated rations of rice, lentils and oil so she could hire men to build her a sturdier

shelter in the same spot. The bamboo and sandbags were donated by aid agencies. She fears there isn't enough material, but she has no money to buy extra bamboo.

Families living in five shelters on the hill recently evacuated, she says. She can only hope that her relatives will protect her and her children when the worst of the rains arrive.

The most intense rains are expected over the next few months, though heavy downpours began pummeling the camps in June. There have already been more than 160 landslides, 30 people injured and one toddler killed, according to the Inter Sector Coordination Group, or ISCG, which oversees the aid agencies in the camps.

"Within 24 hours of the first rains falling, we were seeing small landslides and we were seeing flooding everywhere," says Daphnee Cook, a spokeswoman for Save the Children. "I've been here for seven months and I was appalled at how quickly things started to fall apart."

Afghan officials: IS bomber kills 20, Taliban kill 9 police

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Islamic State suicide bomber killed 20 people in northern Afghanistan on Tuesday, including a Taliban commander, while in southern Helmand province, a government commando unit freed 54 people from a Taliban-run jail, officials said.

In southern Kandahar province, the Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Afghanistan district late on Monday night, killing nine policemen and wounding seven, according to Daud Ahmadi, the spokesman for the provincial governor.

Zia Durrani, the provincial police spokesman, said 25 Taliban fighters were killed and 15 were wounded in the ensuing battle in Afghanistan, a violent districts close to the Pakistani border.

Afghanistan has faced intense attacks by both the Taliban and the country's Islamic State affiliate recently, even as Washington considers a Taliban demand for direct talks in hopes of jump-starting a negotiated end to what is now the longest military engagement by U.S. forces.

A Taliban official in Qatar, where the Taliban maintain an unofficial office, told The Associated Press the insurgents

want direct talks and are ready to put troop withdrawal as well as any outstanding concerns the United States might have on the table—but that so far, no official request to open negotiations has come from Washington.

Speaking on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the media, the Taliban official said de-listing Taliban leaders from U.S. and U.N. watch lists and recognizing their office in Doha, Qatar's capital, would aid progress in talks, should they begin.

Meanwhile, in northern Afghanistan's Sar-i-Pul province, provincial police chief Abdul Qayuom Baqizoi said Tuesday's attack by IS took place as village elders met with Taliban officials. He said 15 of the 20 killed were local elders and five were Taliban members, including a Taliban commander.

The Taliban and the Islamic State group have been waging bitter battles in recent days in northern Afghanistan. As many as 100 insurgents from both the Taliban and IS have died in the fighting, said Baqizoi.

However, provincial council chief Mohammed Noor Rahman gave a different account of the explosion, saying

it occurred in a mosque as a funeral was taking place. The area is remote and it was impossible to reconcile the differing accounts.

Also Tuesday, in southern Helmand's Musa Qala district, a commando unit stormed a jail late Monday that Taliban insurgents had been operating. They found and freed 32 civilians, 16 policemen, four soldiers and two military doctors, said Omar Zwak, spokesman for the provincial governor.

The Taliban did not immediately comment on the raid, but the insurgents are in control of the majority of the districts in Helmand, where they have increased their attacks against provincial officials and security forces.

The Taliban have long refused direct talks with the Afghan government, demanding instead to negotiate with the U.S. They have maintained that position despite Afghan President Ashraf Ghani's unilateral extension of a holiday cease-fire last month in hopes of encouraging the Taliban to come to the negotiating table.

When the Taliban continued to mount deadly attacks, Ghani ordered government forces to resume military operations this month.

World

Obama delivers veiled rebuke to Trump in Mandela address

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—

In his highest profile speech since leaving office, former U.S. President Barack Obama on Tuesday denounced the policies of President Donald Trump without mentioning his name, taking aim at the "politics of fear, resentment, retrenchment," and decrying leaders who are caught lying and "just double down and lie some more."

Obama was cheered by

thousands in Johannesburg's Wanderers Stadium as he marked the centenary of Nelson Mandela's birth by urging respect for human rights, the free press and other values he said were under threat.

He rallied people to keep alive the ideals that the anti-apartheid activist worked for as the first black president of South Africa, including democracy, diversity, gender equality and tolerance.

Obama opened by calling today's times "strange and uncertain," adding that "each day's news cycle is bringing more head-spinning and disturbing headlines."

"We see much of the world threatening to return to a more dangerous, more brutal, way of doing business," he said.

A day after Trump met in Helsinki with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Obama criticized "strongman politics."

The "politics of fear, resentment, retrenchment" are on the move "at a pace unimaginable just a few years ago," Obama added.

"Those in power seek to undermine every institution ... that gives democracy meaning," he said.

The first African-American president of the United States spoke up for equality in all forms, adding: "I would have thought we had figured that out by now."

Obama praised the diversity of the World Cup champion French team, and he said that those countries engaging in xenophobia "eventually ... find themselves consumed by civil war."

He noted the "utter loss of shame among political leaders when they're caught in a lie and they just double down and lie some more," warning that the denial of facts—such as climate change—could be the undoing of democracy.

Former U.S. President Barack Obama, waves as he leaves the stage after delivering his speech at the 16th Annual Nelson Mandela Lecture at the Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg, South Africa, Tuesday, July 17, 2018. **AP**

Tumult of Trump's Europe trip smashes presidential precedent

HELSINKI (AP)—Plenty of U.S. presidents have created commotion in their travels abroad, but none as much as President Donald Trump.

The president's tumultuous trip across Europe, historians say, smashed the conventions of American leaders on the world stage.

Trump's "America first" approach to foreign policy had him seeming to accept the word of a hostile power over his own intelligence agencies, insulting allies and sowing doubts about his commitment to the NATO alliance.

"We've never had a president go abroad and not only lecture to our NATO allies, but also to embarrass them," said Russia expert William Pomeranz, deputy director of the Kennan Institute at the Wilson Center. "We've never had our president go on

a foreign tour and categorize our allies as foes. And we've never had our president hold a joint news conference with a Russian leader where he assigned blame, from his perspective, to both parties, but in fact dedicated most of his time to blaming the U.S. Justice Department and intelligence services."

While past presidents have had difficult foreign trips and been criticized for their summits with Soviet leaders, Trump's behavior has few parallels, in the view of presidential historians and long-time Russia watchers.

Franklin Roosevelt was accused of "selling out" to Joseph Stalin at the Yalta Conference in 1945; John F. Kennedy and his aides admitted that he'd been unprepared for his 1961 Vienna summit with Nikita Khrushchev; the Reykjavík summit between

Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in 1986 was seen at the time to have ended in failure; and George W. Bush was mocked for telling reporters in 2001 after meeting with Putin that he had "looked the man in the eye" and "found him to be very straightforward and trustworthy."

Trump's trip was different. "Frankly, I don't think those U.S. presidents at any point came off as not pursuing U.S. security interests, as being taken in by the Soviet leader they were meeting with," said Alina Polyakova, a foreign policy fellow at the Brookings Institution. "I think even President George W. Bush's meeting, where he had that famous quote about looking into Putin's eyes and seeing into his soul—this summit dwarfs that by a factor of a thousand."

Environment

TO SAVE WORLD'S RAREST MARINE MAMMAL

Conservationists seek ban on Mexican seafood imports

By LOUIS SAHAGUN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—A decade of rescue crusades by conservation groups, hard-core eco-activists and the U.S. Navy have failed to prevent the world's rarest porpoise from becoming fatally entangled in gill nets set for seafood in Mexico's northern Gulf of California.

Now, with less than 20 vaquita left in the wild, the prospect of the species' extinction within two years has prompted a last-ditch effort with significant economic and political consequences for the United States and Mexico.

Conservationists on Tuesday asked an international trade court judge in New York for a preliminary injunction banning imports of an estimated \$16 million worth of fish and shrimp harvested with gill nets in an area of the gulf roughly a third the size of Los Angeles County and just three hours south of the border.

U.S. Court of International Trade Judge Gary Katzmann said he would rule within two weeks. His decision may hinge, in part, on whether the costs of implementing an embargo to save the species are greater than the costs of its disappearance.

An embargo on about 47 tons of corvina, 90 tons of sierra, 172 tons of chano and 1,150 tons of shrimp caught annually within 160 miles of the border "would create the necessary incentives to ensure that the Mexican government takes the gill net problem seriously," Giulia Good Stefani, an attorney representing the Natural Resources Defense Council in the case, said in an interview, "just as embargoes catalyzed the transition to dolphin-safe tuna and turtle-safe shrimp trawling."

Tighter control of the fishing industry may also help reduce the number of vaquita killed in gill nets that poachers use to snare a large endangered fish known as totoaba, whose swim bladders are prized on the black market in China, where they are believed to have medicinal properties.

A gill net is a wall of netting hung vertically in the water that lets a fish get its head, but not its body, through the mesh. The fish's gills get caught in the mesh as it tries to back out.

Katzmann took the request under consideration after hearing arguments presented by Good Stefani and Agatha Koprowski, a Department of Justice attorney representing defendants such as Com-



Sea Shepherd activists work to remove gill nets and other illegal fishing lines from a protected area in the Sea of Cortez which is the habitat of the highly endangered Vaquita Marina porpoise and the endangered Totoaba fish, in April 2017. TNS

merce Secretary Wilbur Ross; Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin; Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen, and Chris Oliver, assistant administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Koprowski argued that a judicially imposed import ban could threaten high-level ongoing negotiations between

The lawsuit by the Natural

Resources Defense Council, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Animal Welfare Institute contend that by allowing gill-net-caught fish and shrimp from the vaquita's range to be imported into the United States, the defendants are violating the Marine Mammal Protection Act, which requires the government to ban seafood from

foreign fisheries that kill or injure marine mammals at a rate above U.S. standards.

The unprecedented decline of vaquita — now falling about 50 percent of its population each year — does not meet U.S. standards. Scientists say the vaquita population has dwindled from 567 in a 1997 survey to fewer than 20.

In documents filed with the court in a related lawsuit, Mexico's National Chamber of Fisheries and Aquaculture Industries argued that the protection act lacks the authority to impose an emergency ban on foreign fish products. A dismissal, it added, would provide Mexico's regulatory authorities with more time to improve vaquita protection measures.

The vaquita, whose name translates as "little cow," is the world's smallest porpoise, with the smallest geographical range of any marine mammal. Its chubby frame and black-ringed eyes have earned it the nickname "panda of the sea." No marine mammal faces such an immediate threat of extinction.

Recent necropsies on dead vaquitas showed "there are still breeding females out there and the animals are eating," Sarah Uhleman, international program director at the Center for Biological Diversity, said in an interview. "So, the species still has a chance."

Meanwhile, tensions are escalating among conservationists, Mexican fishermen, whose livelihoods are threatened by tighter fishing controls, and poachers in the illegal totoaba trade which, authorities say, is more lucrative than cocaine trafficking.

The U.S. conservation group Sea Shepherd has sent boats to the gulf to monitor gill-netting activities. A year ago, a fisherman shot down a drone that belonged to Sea Shepherd, authorities said. In a separate incident last year, fishermen in the port town of San Felipe painted "Sea Shepherd" on the side of an old boat and burned it.

In early 2017, the U.S. Navy deployed trained bottlenose dolphins to help capture some of the remaining vaquita so they could be taken to a protected pen. That effort was scrapped in November when an adult female vaquita died after a few hours in captivity.

Conservationists fear the consequences of another gill-net fishing season.

"The weight on our side of the legal scale in this matter is extinction," Uhleman said. "It doesn't get more serious than that."

Florida to restrict shore-based shark fishing at many public beaches

By DAVID FLESHLER
SUN SENTINEL

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla.—The controversial fishing practice of catching large sharks from shore could be banned from many of Florida's public beaches, restricted to nighttime hours or subjected to other limits, under options being considered to protect both swimmers and the sharks.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission voted last April to impose limits on shore-based shark fishing, an activity that produces dramatic Instagram photos and YouTube videos of anglers reeling in 12-foot hammerheads and tiger sharks. Nine workshops have been scheduled around the state, with specific proposals tentatively scheduled to go to the commission in December.

Swimmers have expressed concern that the activity could endanger them by luring large sharks closer to shore, although a scientist from the wildlife commission has said there's no evidence for this. But scientists and conservationists have also criticized the dragging ashore of sharks for photos and videos before releasing them.



AP
William Fundora (left) of the South Florida Shark Club and Colby Uva (right) unhook a sandbar shark while fishing off the north end of Delray Beach. The city may soon ban land-based shark fishing.

They say the practice — which is illegal in the case of protected species such as great hammerheads — could be difficult for many sharks to survive.

"Physiologically, fragile species like hammerheads need to be left in the water where they can breathe, not dragged across rough sand or concrete while being unable to breathe," said David Shiffman, a shark biologist who had been a critic of shore-based shark fishing while a graduate student at the University of Miami.

"I'm thrilled to see FWC considering many of our expert suggestions," he said. "As it's currently practiced, land-based shark fishing in Florida results in the needless deaths of threatened, protected species. These regulatory changes will help reduce those deaths, and will do so without in any way infringing on the rights of conservation-minded, rule-following anglers."

During the April meeting, some commissioners said the activity showed a disrespect for wildlife, particularly

when people hold open the mouth of the beached sharks and perch on their backs.

"Some of those pictures that were shown on social media were disgraceful," Commissioner Joshua Kellam said. "I think that just morally people should be ashamed of themselves to post stuff like that, to do that stuff to animals. People who do these things should be punished for their actions."

The commission, a seven-member board appointed by Gov. Rick Scott, told its staff to come up with proposals for limiting the activity.

Among the options: Requiring a special permit for shore-based shark fishing, limiting chumming from shore, restricting the activity to nighttime and banning it from public beaches protected by lifeguards.

To protect the sharks, the state put forward several options. It could prohibit tournaments from offering prizes for catching protected species. It could ban the use of gear more likely to injure the sharks. And to make sure sharks are released as quickly as possible, it could prohibit removing them from the water, measuring them or delaying their release for any reason.

Life & Style

San Francisco bans tour buses from 'Full House' residence

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Tour buses will no longer be swinging by a San Francisco

house made famous in the popular 1990s sitcom "Full House."

The San Francisco Mu-

nicipal Transportation Agency voted Tuesday to ban commercial vehicles from Broder-

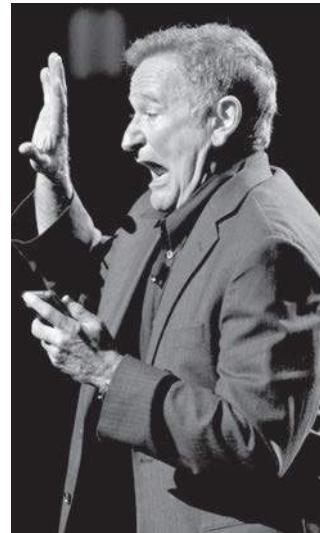
Robin Williams speaks for himself in new HBO documentary

NEW YORK (AP)—When filmmaker Marina Zenovich sought to make a documentary about Robin Williams, she found that she could do it largely in the late comedian's own voice.

"Robin Williams: Come Inside My Mind," uses a wealth of archival footage to put viewers inside his thought process—mirroring a routine Williams used as an up-and-coming comic in the 1970s.

The film, which includes interviews with David Letterman and Billy Crystal, premiered Monday on HBO and is available on its streaming service, HBO Now. Friends and relatives, including Williams' son Zak, also share memories.

"I get sad when I think about Billy and Robin because when I interviewed him (Crystal) you could really feel a sense of loss," the filmmaker



In this Nov. 8, 2012 file photo, Robin Williams performs at the 6th Annual Stand Up For Heroes benefit concert for injured service members and veterans in New York.

said. "I love the line in the movie when he says, 'Everyone wanted something from him. I had no agenda. I just liked him.'

The documentary is intended to celebrate the artist, Zenovich said, and her team "handcrafted" the project with

love. It was often difficult to choose among the hundreds of clips and routines.

"What's so great is hearing people say the film is so inspiring. It's so joyful. And I don't know, it touches on something deep. I mean, it's about so many things. It's about fame, the effects of fame. It's about talent and kind of someone with an amazing talent, watching his trajectory."

Zenovich said she wants people to have a greater understanding of Williams and what he tried to do "and how generous he was and what a great mind he had."

Destiny's Child singer Williams seeks mental health help

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Destiny's Child singer Michelle Williams says she's seeking help for the depression she has struggled with for years.

Williams said in an Instagram post Tuesday that she has "sought help from a great team of health care professionals."

She gave no specifics on her treatment, and a message left with her manager seeking details was not immediately returned.

Williams' post says that for years she has dedicated herself to increasing awareness



This Feb. 17, 2012 file photo shows singer-actress Michelle Williams at the 43rd NAACP Image Awards in Los Angeles. Destiny's Child singer Williams says she's seeking help for the depression she has struggled with for years.

example in seeking treatment. The 37-year-old Williams was a core member of Destiny's Child, the trio with Beyoncé Knowles and Kelly Rowland that sat atop the R&B world from 1997 to 2006.



Aries Layton, seated left, and her aunt Kelsy Layton pose as Debra Layton, Aries' grandmother and Kelsy's mother, foreground, takes photos outside a Victorian home made famous by the television show "Full House" in San Francisco, Tuesday, July 17, 2018. AP

home, causing traffic hazards.

The exterior of the Broderick Street house was used as the family's residence in the original show and in a Netflix reboot in 2016.

The producer who created the show bought the home for more than \$4 million in 2016.

Prince Harry, Meghan visit Nelson Mandela exhibition

LONDON (AP)—Prince Harry and his wife Meghan have visited an exhibition in London charting the life of Nelson Mandela.

Peter Hain, a former anti-apartheid campaigner and chair of the Nelson Mandela Centenary Exhibition, said it was "very fitting" for the royal couple to visit because Harry does charitable work in southern Africa, and Meghan has said that Mandela is one of her heroes.

Harry has visited sites associated with Mandela, including his Robben Island prison cell, and a former Mandela aide has said that Queen Elizabeth II enjoyed a solid friendship with the South African leader.

Meghan chose a sleeveless beige trench coat-inspired dress by Canadian brand Nonie for the occasion.

The exhibition, curated by the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg, is opening Tuesday at London's Southbank Center.



Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan the Duchess of Sussex attend the launch of the Nelson Mandela Centenary Exhibition, marking the 100th anniversary of anti-apartheid leader's birth, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, Tuesday, July 17, 2018. AP

Nickelodeon announces new 'Rugrats' episodes, movie

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Tommy, Chuckie and the gang have a new TV and movie deal.

Nickelodeon and Paramount Pictures have announced the animated children's series "Rugrats" is returning to the

network with 26 episodes. The creators of the series will be executive producers.

A live-action movie, written by David Goodman, featuring computer generated characters is slated to hit theaters in November 2020.

Widow returns to the dating pool and finds troubled water

DEAR ABBY: I was widowed seven years ago. When my husband died, I thought it was the end of my suffering. It had been a mentally and physically abusive marriage for 30 years. We were complete opposites and were always financially stressed.

I have decided to start dating again. I want to meet someone and hopefully feel loved. I joined a dating website, but the men on it look disturbed and creepy. I have no friends, and I feel like I'm dying. I'm 57. Where are all the good men? I am at a loss.

My boss told me I should consider dating women since I have had no luck meeting men. She is pushing me into meeting her lesbian friend. Her friend was in an abusive marriage, and her husband is no longer in her life. Abby, I'm shocked that she would even suggest it.

I'm considering quitting my job because it's awkward being around my boss. She started joking about it with other co-workers until I told her to stop bringing up the subject. Even though she has curbed her tongue, the fact still remains that my co-workers know she wanted to match me with a woman. I cringe working around her and want to crawl under a rock. Please help.

LONGING TO BE LOVED

DEAR LONGING: It's time to join some different dating sites and enlarge your pool of dating prospects. How-

ever, when you do, keep in mind that your marital history may have negatively affected your judgment about men. "Dating" does not carry with it a guarantee of love. Your relationship with your husband should have shown you that. Also, because a man doesn't photograph well does not mean he's disturbed or creepy. (One woman's creep can be another woman's Prince Charming.)

That said, if I ever heard about creating a hostile work environment, what your boss did is a textbook example and should have been discussed with HR. "Joking" about an employee's sexuality is considered to be both discriminatory and a form of sexual harassment. Her behavior was beyond the pale, and you should start looking for another job.

DEAR ABBY: My 47-year-old son is employed at a prestigious university. His position involves a considerable amount of travel.

Over the years, he always emailed us his travel plans along with flight information. Lately, he tells us when and where he is going but omits the flight, hotel information, etc. When we ask, our requests are ignored. When we tell him we think it's irresponsible for him not to share this information, his response is, "My secretary has the information if there are any problems."

We always give our children our travel information, flights,

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

hotels, etc. when we travel. Our question is, are we out of line for wanting this information from him?

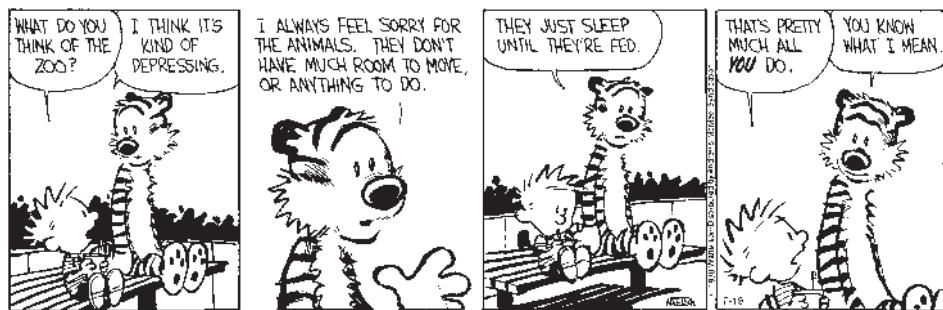
LOVING PARENTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR PARENTS: You are not out of line for wanting the information; you are out of line for insisting your adult son give it to you over his objection. Your son is 47. He is no longer a child. It's time to back off.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

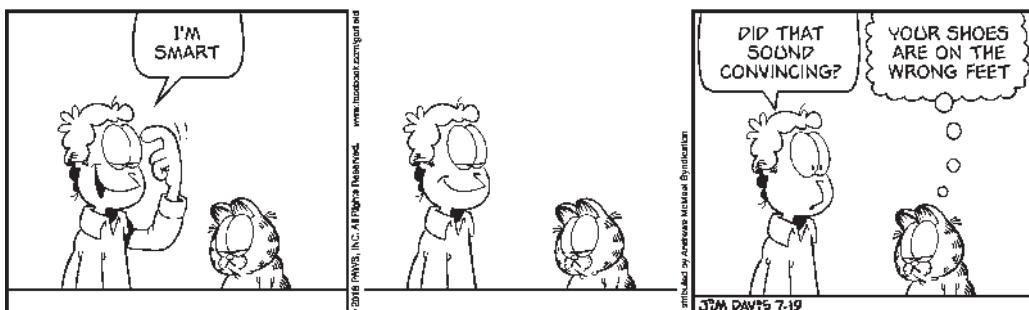
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



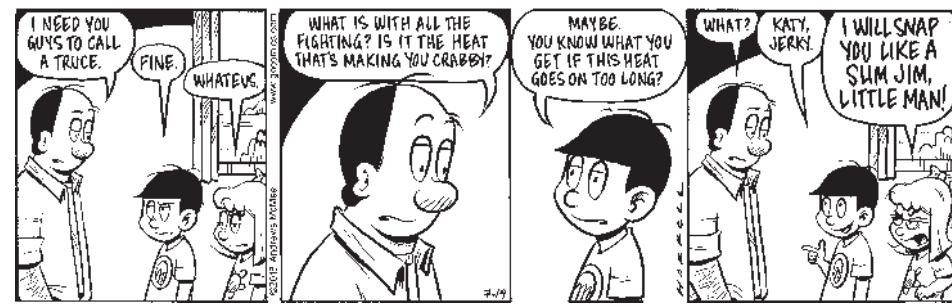
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Like some flared	55	Designer Spade	10	Hit CBS series	
1	Eve's man		11	"— was saying ..."	19	"2001" computer	
5	Hanoi holiday	37	No-worry situation	2	Stadium top	21	Drench
8	Bygone Peruvian	40	"Funny!"	3	Skin soother	23	Blood giver
12	"Damn Yankees"	41	Finally	4	Stewart and Graham	24	Perry's creator
13	Yankees" Craving	45	Lincoln	5	Become narrower	25	Monopoly card
14	vamp Past	47	or Lincoln	6	Conceit	26	Big party
15	Legend- ary loch	49	Ford Wrinkled fruit	7	"Let's see you do better!"	27	Bailiwick
16	Latin love	50	Pisa	8	Agra's land	28	Refuse holder
17	Burst	51	Sweetie	9	Neighbor- Ernie	32	Embassy worker
18	Roman 512	52	Blacken	35	Bat wood	33	Bring your favorite dish" meal
20	Ninny	53	Vegas	36	Retrieve	38	Bumpkin
22	Stubborn	54	game	39	Merits	42	Turkish title
26	Deadly	55	Golfer	40	Scorpio	43	Blind part
29	Granola grain		Ernie	41	Arab	44	Lose energy
30	Raw rock			42	Arab	45	"Nasty!"
31	Messes up			43	Arab	46	Dead heat
32	Picnic crasher			44	Arab		
33	Fishing rod			45	Arab		
34	Earl Grey, for one			46	Arab		
35	From — Z			47	Arab		
				48	MSN rival		

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-19

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Trai Byers, 35; Jared Padalecki, 36; Benedict Cumberbatch, 42; Brian May, 71.

Happy Birthday: Engage in pastimes that interest you this year. A change will stimulate your imagination. The ideas you come up with will be met with opposition, but as you move forward, your progress and success will sway those who have taken a wait-and-see approach. Make love and romance priorities in order to stabilize your relationship with someone special. Your numbers are 7, 13, 18, 21, 27, 35, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep busy and lend a helping hand. Do your best not to make snap judgments or decisions that can leave you in a vulnerable or awkward position. Make adjustments and proceed forward with a plan. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't underestimate what someone else might say or do. Be fully prepared to counter any aggressive action with facts. Keeping a level head will help you bring about positive change without upsetting someone who could cause problems for you. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Interact with people who have something to contribute. Whether you are challenged physically or mentally, knowing your opponent will help coax those on your team to help you gain acceptance and accomplish what you set out to do. **★★★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look for the outlet that excites you most. Getting involved in something you feel passionate about will encourage you to put in the time and ef-

fort to surpass your initial plans. A partnership will undergo a positive change with a kind gesture. **★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Express your intentions and listen to suggestions. Finding a way to please everyone won't be easy, but it will help you avoid discord. Too much of anything will lead to loss. Distance yourself from indulgent or narcissistic people. **★★★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on yourself and how best to improve your health, physical appearance and important relationships. Putting more thought into the changes you want to bring about will ensure help moving forward. Take the initiative and make things happen. **★★★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you have to use force, you should rethink your plan of attack. An intelligent idea that is well-presented will help you weed out those who aren't interested, leaving you with the right people to help you put your plans in motion. **★★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Rely on your basic instincts when you feel the urge to indulge in something you know you shouldn't. Temptation will be the negative in your life, while health and love will encourage progress. Lean toward the positive and forgo a senseless battle. **★★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Easy does it. Rely on your intelligence and ability to gather the facts, not what someone else leads you to believe. Keep your money, possessions and personal identity in a safe place. Avoid excessive and persuasive individuals. **★★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look for the outlet that excites you most. Getting involved in something you feel passionate about will encourage you to put in the time and ef-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COURTESY 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The art of the deal is in the palm of your hand. Refuse to let greed or emotions ruin what you've worked so hard to acquire. Know your boundaries and what you are up against. Be aware of when to say no. **★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional or aggressive behavior will be upsetting. Walk away from anyone trying to get you to part with your money. An aggressive sales pitch must not undermine your sense of what you need and what you can do without. **★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for the best deal and offer the most efficient suggestions and help. Don't let someone in an authoritative position put undue pressure on you to reveal information that could set you up for a fall. Protect your reputation. **★★★★★**

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, proactive and ambitious. You are opportunistic and outgoing.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			3	8				
6						2		
	3	1	6	2	7			
5	6				9	7		
	4				8			
2	1				3	6		
	6	5	1	4	8			
9						5		
	2	7	4					

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	4	7	3	6	9	5	2	1
2	3	5	4	1	8	7	9	6
1	6	9	2	7	5	8	3	4
5	9	3	6	4	7	2	1	8
4	7	2	5	8	1	9	6	3
6	8	1	9	2	3	4	5	7
7	2	6	1	5	4	3	8	9
9	1	8	7	3	2	6	4	5
3	5	4	8	9	6	1	7	2

7/19 Yesterday's Answer

By DAVID OUELLET

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BABY STROLLERS

Solution: 8 letters

E	A	T	S	T	O	R	A	G	E	R	U	C	E	S
L	L	D	E	H	R	E	S	T	N	A	F	N	I	T
K	L	B	A	K	I	E	D	I	W	A	I	S	T	E
C	E	E	I	P	S	K	P	O	N	H	S	U	P	T
U	R	L	C	T	T	A	E	S	R	A	C	K	E	H
B	B	O	O	P	R	E	B	S	H	Y	P	K	S	E
R	M	S	M	B	A	E	R	C	R	P	C	S	R	R
A	U	N	F	O	L	D	V	M	A	O	F	T	A	A
K	B	O	O	T	R	A	D	N	P	N	E	J	B	E

At 33, Ronaldo says age isn't important

TURIN, Italy (AP)—At the age of 33, many football players are past their peak. Cristiano Ronaldo vows to show he is not one of them.

Juventus signed Ronaldo from Real Madrid last week for 112 million euros (\$131.5 million)—an Italian league record sum—and the world player of the year penned a four-year contract.

Some see it as an extravagant sum for a player who, although a five-time Ballon d'Or winner, is entering the latter stages of a glittering career.

At his first news conference as a Juventus player on Monday, Ronaldo insisted he was motivated by a new challenge and keen to step out of his comfort zone after nine years at Madrid.

"With all due respect, usually players of my age go to Qatar or China, so coming to such an outstanding club at this stage in my career makes me very happy," he said.

"I'm different from all the other players who think their career is over at my age. I want to show that I'm not like the others, I'm different. It's an emotional moment for me because I'm not 23, I'm 33."

"I'm not here on holiday," he added. "I want to mark the history of Juventus. I hope I can surprise everyone one last time and I'm very, very confident."

Ronaldo has always been credited with a phenomenal workrate, and he has promised to continue that at Juventus in order to prolong his longevity.



Portuguese ace Ronaldo salutes his fans as he arrives to undergo medical checks at the Juventus stadium in Turin, Italy, Monday, July 16, 2018. AP

I'm looking forward to starting the league well and to try to win every title."

On his arrival at Allianz Stadium for his medical on Monday, Ronaldo was greeted by hundreds of fans, who chanted his name and "Portaci la Champions" ("Bring us the Champions League trophy").

Juventus hasn't won the Champions League since 1996. It has been on the losing side in the final five times since then, including twice in the past four editions.

Juventus has won the Serie A for the last seven seasons—and done the league and Italian Cup double for the past four—but has struggled to transfer its domestic supremacy to the European stage.

Ronaldo has won the Champions League four times in the past five seasons. He has a record 120 Champions League goals, 105 of them at Madrid, 12 more than Juventus as a team managed in that same period.

"Juventus has been one step away from it and couldn't win," Ronaldo said. "I hope I can be the lucky charm."

Steve Kerr receives contract extension from Warriors

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Golden State Warriors coach Steve Kerr has received a contract extension following the franchise's repeat championship and third title in four years during his tenure.

Kerr and general manager Bob Myers, who are close friends and colleagues, said when the season ended that something would get done quickly once they began formal discussions. Kerr had one year remaining on his original \$25 million, five-year contract. Details of the extension were not announced Tuesday.

"We're excited to have Steve under contract and poised to lead our team for the next several years," Myers said in a statement released by the team. "Under his guidance, we've been fortunate enough to win three NBA titles in four years and his ability to thrive in all facets of his job is certainly a primary reason for our success. He's a terrific coach, but more importantly an incredible human being."



The 52-year-old Kerr has said he hopes to coach at least another decade and perhaps 15 years. His Warriors swept LeBron James and Cleveland in the fourth straight NBA Finals matchups between the rivals.

Kerr stayed healthy and on the bench while continuing to deal with symptoms such as headaches and dizzy spells stemming from a pair of back surgeries following the 2015 title.

The Warriors marked themselves as a dynasty with their latest crown. They joined Bill Russell's Boston Celtics, the Chicago Bulls led by Michael Jordan and the Lakers' trio of title runs fueled by George Mikan in the 1950s, Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in the '80s, and Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant nearly 20 years ago as the only franchises in NBA history to capture three championships in four years.

Golden State captured the franchise's first title in 40 years during 2014-15, with Kerr as a rookie head coach. Now, the Warriors are gearing up for one more season in

Oracle Arena before opening their state-of-the-art Chase Center in San Francisco's Mission Bay neighborhood in August 2019.

James offered a shoutout to Kerr during the finals.

"I could sit here and say today—'Listen, Golden State is a great team ...'—I didn't even mention their head coach," James said. "Their head coach is the one who kind of puts it all together, makes it all flow. To be able to put egos and the right position and spot on the floor where everybody feels good about the outcome and things of that nature -- when it comes to team sports, that's something that you would hope that you could be a part of."

Kerr owns a 265-63 record (.808), guiding the Warriors to a record 73-win season in 2015-16 before a runner-up finish to the Cavaliers. His Warriors then went a record 16-1 during the 2017 postseason on the way to another title.

He was tested more as a coach this season, aside from his 43-game absence to begin the 2015-16 season when

then-top assistant and current Lakers coach Luke Walton led the Warriors to a record 24-0 start and 39-4 mark before Kerr's return to the bench.

Late in the regular season this year, Golden State lost seven of 10 during one noteworthy funk for a team that when healthy starts four All-Stars and can score in flurries with a pass-happy offense that racks up assists.

For weeks ahead of the 2018 playoffs, the Warriors hardly looked like that super team that dominated through the previous postseason. They lost their final regular-season game at Utah by 40 points.

Yet Kerr and his players insisted all along they would find another level when there was something bigger to play for.

Kerr was forced to use a mindboggling 27 different starting lineups to get through the regular season and wind up a No. 2 seed behind Houston, with the Western Conference finals marking the first time the Warriors had to open a series on the road since 2014.

league is very tough but Juve is ready and I will be ready. The age is not important. I feel good, I feel motivated. I will try to do my best like always.

World Cup winner Mbappe donating \$350,000 bonus

PARIS (AP)—Teenage World Cup winner Kylian Mbappe is giving his bonus to an association that puts sports in the lives of hospitalized children.

The head of Premiers de Cordee (First in Line), Sebastien Ruffin, says two weeks before France clinched the World Cup he was informed that Mbappe would give the group his bonus if the team qualified for the quarterfinals.

French Football Federation chief Noel Le Graet confirmed in Sunday's *Journal du Dimanche* that other associations also would benefit from the France forward's largesse—"about 300,000 euros (\$350,000)."

Mbappe mentors the kids, and Ruffin said the player has "very good contact" with them: "I sometimes feel he gets more pleasure playing with kids than they do."

In Iceland, the coach that led Iceland to its first World Cup has stepped down.

The Icelandic Football Association says Heimir

Hallgrímsson has decided to leave at his own request, ending seven years in the role.

Hallgrímsson was the co-coach with Lars Lagerbäck of Sweden at the European Championship in 2016, when Iceland reached the quarterfinals after beating England.

After Lagerbäck left, Hallgrímsson assumed sole control of the national team, which became the least populous team to ever play at a World Cup. Iceland drew with Argentina in its opening group game but failed to advance to the knockout stage.

Hallgrímsson is a part-time dentist.

In Russia, the four protesters who barged onto the field at the World Cup final in Moscow have been sentenced to 15 days in jail.

The protesters, members of the Pussy Riot punk collective, ran onto the pitch at Luzhniki Stadium dressed as police officers during the second half of Sunday's match between France and Croatia.



Record 10 homers set, AL wins All-Star Game

WASHINGTON (AP)—A record 10 home runs. A slew of strikeouts.

The all-or-nothing All-Star Game mirrored what baseball has become.

Astros teammates Alex Bregman and George Springer homered on consecutive pitches to begin the 10th inning, and the American League beat the National League 8-6 Tuesday night for its sixth straight win.

“Standard operation nowadays, right?” said AL manager A.J. Hinch of Houston. “We’re going to homer and punch out as an industry.”

“There’s a great love affair with both results. I mean, to kind of empty your tank and hit homers tonight at this event is probably the best thing imaginable,” he said. “Just to have that kind of emotion that comes with the home run, especially when the big boys hit it and especially when the Astros hit it.”

Mike Trout, Aaron Judge and Jean Segura also connected for the AL in a game where every run except one scored on a homer.

Scooter Gennett hit a tying two-run shot off Seattle closer Edwin Diaz in the bottom of the ninth. Joey Votto, Willson Contreras, Trevor Story, Christian Yelich also homered for the NL.

There had never been more than six homers in an All-Star Game since Babe Ruth hit the very first one in 1933.

One of the homers came off Milwaukee’s Josh Hader. After the game, the 24-year reliever took responsibility for racist and homophobic tweets that resurfaced while he was pitching.

Hader said he was immature at age 17 when several of the tweets were posted, but at least one was from 2016 about the shooting of unarmed black teenager Trayvon Martin. Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem said he had spoken to Hader, and the league would have no comment before Wednesday.

“There’s no excuse for what was said,” Hader said. “I’m deeply sorry for what I’ve said and what’s been going on. It doesn’t reflect any of my beliefs going on now.”

While several sluggers went deep, not everything went their way. Starters Max Scherzer and Chris Sale and the relievers combined to fan 15 in the first 4 1/2 innings, and there were 25 strikeouts overall.

Fitting, because this season is on pace to become the first with more strikeouts than hits, a year after a record number of home runs.

“You’re facing power pitchers right now, so that’s kind of what you expect: hit-or-miss with these guys,” Boston’s



Houston Astros Alex Bregman (2) hits a solo home run during the 89th MLB baseball All-Star Game, Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at Nationals Park, in Washington. The American League won, 8-6.

J.D. Martinez said.

Martinez, who leads the majors in homers and RBI, singled and struck out in his two at-bats.

Orioles shortstop Manny Machado had fun, pulling out a camera to snap a selfie at second base after Matt Kemp doubled. By Wednesday, they could be teammates—Baltimore seems ready to trade Machado, with the Dodgers and Phillies in the mix.

“I’m just trying to enjoy this moment with the American League guys,” Machado told FOX in the dugout. “If this is the last time (in a Baltimore uniform), hopefully I treated them well and did everything I can for the organization.”

Major League Baseball, meanwhile, seemed to take a selfie of itself, with all the homers and strikeouts. This was MLB 2.018, an update that’s not appealing to everyone.

“Some of us are going to get them and they’re going to get us. It’s just how it goes,” Atlanta first baseman Freddie Freeman said.

Declining attendance is a concern, and the sport’s owners worry that slower games with less action on the bases are taking a toll.

A day after hometown star Bryce Harper electrified the crowd by winning the Home Run Derby, it was eerily quiet for most of the evening at Nationals Park. Harper didn’t excite the fans, either, fanning in his two at-bats.

The popular Presidents

Race drew the biggest cheer in the middle innings, with the big-headed George Washington character prevailing.

The only thing missing was a bevy of defensive shifts. Overloaded infields are the norm now, Hinch and NL manager Dave Roberts of the Dodgers pretty much played things straight up.

Bregman and Springer homered off losing pitcher Ross Stripling of the Dodgers — that’s kind of how last year ended, too, with Houston battering Los Angeles pitchers in the World Series.

Bregman smiled all around the bases and earned MVP honors. He’s familiar with this city, his grandfather

having been the general counsel for the old Washington Senators.

“My dad grew up on Ted Williams’ lap. So to see Ted Williams Most Valuable Player on this trophy is pretty special,” Bregman said.

Segura’s three-run homer in the eighth landed in the bullpen and broke a 2-all tie. The Seattle infielder popped

up the previous pitch, but Votto, Cincinnati’s reliable first baseman, dropped it for an error as he approached the dugout railing. Segura then connected off Hader.

Judge homered in the second off Scherzer, the Nationals ace who became the first reigning Cy Young Award winner to start an All-Star Game in his home park.

Orioles may trade Machado to Dodgers



WASHINGTON (AP)—

The Los Angeles Dodgers are making preparations to welcome Manny Machado into their pennant race.

Los Angeles entered the All-Star break with a narrow half-game lead over second-place Arizona in the NL West, and there’s a good chance the Dodgers will begin play Friday in Milwaukee with a four-time All-Star at shortstop.

Machado will undoubtedly be dealt by the Baltimore Orioles before the July non-waiver trade deadline, and speculation is centering upon a Wednesday swap with Los Angeles.

“I had a conversation with Manny. He’s a great guy, man, and we would love to have him here,” Dodgers All-Star pitcher Kenley Jansen said Tuesday night.

The Dodgers begin a 10-game road trip out of the break, and they’d love to have Machado dressed in Dodger blue.

“I think the sky’s the limit.

We can do damage,” Jansen said. “Let’s see what’s going to happen.”

If Machado heads to the Dodgers, he will likely get to wear his coveted No. 13, now worn by first baseman Max Muncy.

“He deserves that number,” Jansen said.

In spite of the media that followed his every move, Machado did his best Tuesday to enjoy himself. He walked the red carpet shirtless in a double-breasted suit, took a couple selfies on the field and smiled through six innings of carefree baseball.

When he was done, Machado peeled off his Orioles uniform for perhaps the final time.

Then he walked out of

Nationals Stadium with his family, not bothering to stick around after the game to answer another round of questions about a potential trade that would end his stay in Baltimore -- perhaps before the Orioles return from the break to play in Toronto on Friday night.

In the meantime, Machado was the center of attention before and during the first All-Star Game in Washington since 1969.

A huge media throng buzzed around his locker prior to batting practice. During BP, Machado joked with Dodgers outfielder Matt Kemp outside the cage.

Then came the game. Machado went 0 for 2—a fly ball and a popup—before exiting for a pinch hitter in the sixth inning.

“I’m just trying to enjoy this moment with the American League guys,” Machado told FOX in the dugout. “If this is the last time (in a Baltimore uniform), hopefully I treated them well and did everything I can for the organization.”

Walking out toward the exit ramp, Machado ran into Nick Markakis, a longtime former teammate now with the Atlanta Braves. They hugged, shook hands and walked away.

Earlier, the pair crossed paths on the field.

“I ran up to him and he

started reaching into his pocket. I didn’t know what he was doing,” Markakis said. “Pulled out his phone. We took a picture on the field. It was a pretty cool moment. Pretty cool for him to do. I enjoyed my time playing with him. He’s a great teammate, a great dude. Whatever happens with him after today, I wish him luck.”

It appears as if Los Angeles is going to be the place to be for Machado, who’s batting .315 with 24 homers and 65 RBI.

“Things are getting serious now,” Dodgers right-hander Ross Stripling said. “That’s the kind of bat and the kind of player that you want in your lineup.”

Kemp, a three-time All-Star, said of Machado: “He’s actually one of my favorite players to watch. I hit with him in the offseason two years ago. He’s a great player. If that’s something that happens I think LA would be excited about it and (it would) definitely help our team win more games.”

CNMI Little League players watch pro game in Korea



CNMI Little League players and their parents watch the action between the KT Wiz and Samsung Lions at the Suwon Stadium in South Korea.

SAIPANPLAY, a travel agency specializing in the Saipan market and other islands in the Pacific for Korean travelers, hosted the CNMI All-Star baseball teams from Saipan and Rota while they were in Korea to participate in the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament.

The ASPAC was held at the Hwaseong Dream Park Baseball Field from June 30 to July 6. It had 19 teams from 13 countries, such as the CNMI, Guam, Taiwan, Hong Kong, New Zealand and host Korea, to name a few.

The CNMI Major All-Stars

made up of Saipan players and the CNMI 50/70 Intermediate Team from Rota were extremely thankful for the opportunity to attend a Korean Baseball Organization professional game at the Suwon Stadium to watch the host KT Wiz take on the Samsung Lions.

"Saipan and Rota are small islands in the CNMI that has a total population of about 50,000. But, the interest in baseball is very strong and we hope to see the sport of baseball gain more support not only

from SAIPANPLAY but other organizations", said SAIPANPLAY CEO Shin. "We decided to host the youth baseball teams so they can have a meaningful and enjoyable experience at a professional baseball game here in Korea. I was happy to hear that they had a great time!"

SAIPANPLAY not only hosted the players but also the managers, coaches, league officials from Saipan and Rota and the parents that traveled to watch their kids play in the tournament.

"We can't thank SAIPAN-



Woods says British Open becomes best shot at a major

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP)—Tiger Woods doesn't feel as old at the oldest championship in golf.

Back at the British Open for the first time in three years, Woods broke from his tradi-

tion on Tuesday morning. Instead of being among the first on the tee for practice, he didn't show up at Carnoustie until his news conference just before lunch. Then, he played

nine holes with Masters champion Patrick Reed and Bryson DeChambeau.

This was not a case of a 42-year-old needing his rest. Entering the year having

not played any major since the end of 2015 and the start of three back surgeries, Woods has been feeling better as 2018 has gone on. And there's something about links golf that inspires him.

ished second (9:14.2), edging Kosrae (9:42.8) and Yap (10:25.2). Guam won the repechage (8:59.5).

In the men's division 1,500m, the CNMI topped the semifinals 1 after checking in at 7:44.8 against the 7:45.5 of Guam and 7:50.3 of Pohnpei. However, the Commonwealth bets faltered in the medal race, which Yap won after recording 7:40.1 in the finals. Palau and Guam completed the Top 3 after posting 7:44.4 and 7:50.2, respectively.

In the 500m race, the CNMI finished second both in the men's semifinal 2 (2:13.18) and repechage (2:16.2), but missed a medal in the finals won by Yap (2:10.5). Guam (2:14.1) took the silver, while Palau (2:15.1) got the bronze. In the women's division, Falig and company duplicated the men's crew's results after clocking in at 2:38.6 in the semifinals 2 and 2:43.6 in the repechage. Palau (2:34.1), Kosrae (2:40.3), and Guam (2:43.5) were the Top 3 finishers in the finals.

CNMI

From Page 28

For the CNMI's third bronze medal last night, it was delivered by the islands' 4x100m relay team made up of Jamie Pangelinan, Eleina Santos, Zarinae Sapong, and Rachel Abrams. The quartet timed in at 53.08 to beat Chuuk and Palau. Guam (50.49 seconds) and Pohnpei (52.52) got the gold and silver medals.

With athletics getting three bronzes, the CNMI (after Day 3 of the Games) now has a 1-2-4 gold-silver-bronze medal haul. Palau, as of press time, has moved up with its 16-3-7 tally, followed closely by Guam (15-8-7), while Pohnpei stays at third place with its 7-14-7.

Meanwhile, Orrin Pharmin boosted his medal bid after placing first in one event and third in two of the four events in the octathlon last Tuesday night.

He timed in at 12:36 seconds in the 100m run to rank No. 3 behind Palau's Joab Kanai (11.78) and Pohnpei's Mighty-Jay Bernardo (12.20).

Pharmin was also ranked third in the 400m run (58.13 seconds) and first in the shot put (8.22m). He was fifth in the long jump after recording 4.66m. The remaining four events in octathlon were scheduled last night and results were unavailable as of press time.

Earlier on Day 2 of the athletics competition, Douglas Schmidt finished second in the 400m run (not in the long jump as previously reported) after logging 52.66 seconds in the finals. Chuuk's Kuidone David (51.79 seconds) won the gold, while Guam's Joseph Aguon (52.93 seconds) got the silver.

Schmidt joined the men's long jump and nearly earned a second medal, as he finished fourth after recording 6.04m. Pohnpei's Devon Aquinas tallied 6.07m for the bronze, while Nauru's Jonah Harris (6.33m) and Kiribati's Buraiesta Yeeting (6.17m) clinched the gold and silver medals, respectively.

In other results last Tuesday night, Therize Millare finished

sixth in the women's 400m with her 1:06.57, while Cassandra Camacho and Annalei Santos were ranked No. 8 and 9 in the shot put after posting 8.27m and 7.37m.

Female paddlers win bronze

The women's canoe team added a medal to the CNMI's total after placing third in the V6 1,500m race yesterday at the Yap Marina in Colonia.

The bronze medal squad, made up of Kristine Falig, Lorenza Aldan, Mayiah Dueñas, Maria Ornes, Victoria Saures, Shelli Neal, Elizabeth Tenorio, and Arielle Buyum, timed in at 9:09.2 in the finals to finish behind Guam (9:05.8) and Palau (8:44.6).

Earlier in the semifinals 2, the CNMI came in at second after posting 9:08.5. Pohnpei was first at 9:07.3, while Yap was ranked third (10:56.3). Palau ruled the semifinals 1 with its 8:06.6, beating Guam (8:33.0) and Kosrae (8:55.0). In the repechage, the Commonwealth paddlers also fin-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Major All-Stars from Saipan and CNMI 50/70 Intermediate Team from Rota and their officials and parents pose for a photo at the facade of the Suwon Stadium in South Korea before watching the host KT Wiz take on the Samsung Lions.

TEEN

From Page 28

CNMI Men's National Team pool's training camp and will join the U15 squad in China next week, as the EAFF-sanctioned tournament will run from July 21 to 29. The U15 national squad has midfielder Razeff Altamirano, Taka Borja, Ian Karl Maniago, Floyd Muna, Reginald Pascual, Brandon Tenorio, Merrick Toves, and John Joseph Villagomez, defenders John Ezekiel Canape, Brian Lubao, Daniel Mar Pablo, Rinto Takahashi, and Elijah Villarmero, forwards Oliver Fajardo and Rintaro Miyawaki, and goalkeepers Jonathan Mindanao, John Martin Palad, and Jason Quimzon as members.

NMIFA held a send-off ceremony yesterday for the U15 crew along with the CNMI Boys U16 National Team that will head to the Philippines for the Tuloy XO Cup, which will run from July 31 to Aug. 5.

"Japan and China are our toughest opponents and it's a great opportunity for us to play against the Asian giants. Our strategy is play our soccer, which is not only about defending but also attacking to score goals and win the game. We will play against the giants and in all the games we will try to score," said Mita.

Besides Japan and China, the Teen Ayuyus will also duel Chinese-Taipei, Mongolia, and Macau. South Korea, North Korea, Guam, and Hong Kong complete the tournament and they are in Pool B.

Mita said the U15 players are doing well in their training sessions with the help of assistant coach Jershwin Angeles and CNMI Men's National Team captain Jon Takano.

"We are all enjoying the real quality new soccer pitch. The boys take this tournament very seriously as they are working hard every day. We are improving on team understanding and chemistry. Players try to understand what do we do in attacking, defending, and transition moment. They try to maximize

team play," Mita said.

"We still need to improve our quality techniques—with players able to play in any situation under pressure or less space. We don't have many opportunities to play against strong opponents, so every time we go out, we always think we are playing against strong opponents," the head coach added.

Mita will also call the shots for the U16 team, which is made up of Altamirano, Taka Borja, Canape, Lubao, Mindanao, Miyawaki, Quimzon, Takahashi, Toves, Kirt Andon, Thaiphi Austria, Ichiro Borja, Kaden Church, Mark Esalan, Sebastien Manabat, Joshua Mendez, John Michael Rojas, Joshua Waldo, and Richard Waldo Jr. The head coach is anticipating a lot of tight matches in the XO Cup.

"All international tournaments are very tough for us. Even Philippine football is improving a lot these days. This tournament is going to be tough for us, but our goal is to be champions," Mita said.

"The U16 boys got a very good experience in last year AFC U16. We lost a lot of goals, but at same time the boys learned a lot. They knew the real international level of play," he added.

In the XO Cup, the CNMI will play against Luenthai Soccer School, Tuloy sa Don Bosco, Makati Football Club, Don Bosco Technical College Cebu, and Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong).

Meanwhile, NMIFA Executive Committee member Patty Coleman led the well-wishers for the two youth national teams yesterday at the NMI Soccer Training Center and thanked all the people who made the CNMI's participation to the two off-island tournaments possible.

"This is an incredible opportunity for players of our small islands to play against countries with millions of people. Show them the CNMI fighting spirit and cherish every single moment of the tournament," Coleman said.

34th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Papa San's Joaquin Torres, third left, and his anglers and daughters pose with the yellow fin tuna and wahoo they caught last Saturday during the 34th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament.



Pete Sablan, in gray shirt, of *King Fisher* escorts the 379-lb marlin they caught on Day 1 of the tournament.



Bella captain and Superior Court Associate Justice Perry Inos Sr., center, and his crewmembers pose with their 26.3-lb wahoo, which topped the competition.



The huge *Past Time* docks at Smiling Cove Marina to turn in its catch.



Division of Fish and Wildlife employees measure a skipjack tuna caught by *Bunita*.



A Sweet Candy crewmember holds a 23.9-lb wahoo.



A St. Jude angler poses with the plumped yellow fin.



A young fisherman, right, holds a skipjack tuna, while a crewmember from *Shut Up & Fish* unloads a wahoo to the weighing scale.



At 33, Ronaldo
says age isn't
important

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Record 10 homers
set, AL wins All-
Star Game

PAGE 25



28 THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI nips Palau in baseball

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

The CNMI pulled off a thrilling 1-0 victory over its toughest challenger, Palau, last night in the baseball competition in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

Virgil Secharmidal made the dagger off Palau's couple of errors down the homestretch. The CNMI catcher scored on a bunt, as Palau's catcher had a wild throw to first base with the ball going to the side of the fence. With the booboo, Secharmidal ran from second to third base and then all the way to home plate, as Palau's right fielder



Players and officials of the CNMI Baseball Team pose for a photo before their game against Kosrae last Tuesday in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

struggled to pick up the ball.

The win against Palau, which defeated the CNMI in the gold medal game in 2010, was

the second in as many games for the Commonwealth. The team routed Kosrae, 13-3,

in its first match last Tuesday. Today, the CNMI will try to keep its unbeaten record

when it takes on Pohnpei at 3pm. Pohnpei has a 1-1 mark in the tournament, losing to Palau last Monday, 5-9, and winning over Yap last Tuesday night, 16-1.

Guam got the gold and silver, courtesy of Genina Criss (2:27.45) and Madison Packbier (2:31.20).

In the women's triple jump, Jerlyn Castillo made it to the podium after recording 8.68m. Guam's Richelle Tigade (9.86m) and the Marshall Islands' Rosemaline Watley (9.23m) bagged the gold and silver, respectively.

See CNMI on Page 26

Teen Ayuyus to capitalize on chance to play vs 'giants'



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members of the CNMI U16 Boys National Team pose for a group photo at the end of the send-off ceremony yesterday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobilerville. The squad will be competing in Tuloy XO Cup in the Philippines.



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

REPORTER



The CNMI Boys U15 National Team

welcomes the big challenges it will be facing when it plays in the East Asian Football Federation U15 Boys Tournament in Xianghe, China this month.

"The EAFF U15 is a developmental tournament and all players, including substitutes must play. Our first priority is to get experience, learn, and make use of this opportunity for players development, as they are the future of the men's national team," said head coach and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Michiteru Mita in a message sent to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Mita is in Japan for the

See TEEN on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Taka Borja, left, holds the CNMI flag during the send-off ceremony for the CNMI U15 Boys National Team yesterday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobilerville. The squad will be competing in the East Asian Football Federation U15 Boys Tournament in China.

